

# California GARDEN



November/December 2008

Volume 99 No 6 \$4.00

## Living Holiday Trees

Decorating Naturally • Pruning Fruit Trees

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San Diego Floral Association

1650 El Prado #105

San Diego, CA 92101-1684

Email: [editor@sdfal.org](mailto:editor@sdfal.org)

# California GARDEN

THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS

November/December 2008, Volume 99, Number 6

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President: Nancy Carol Carter ([president@sdfal.org](mailto:president@sdfal.org))

Arrangers Guild Chair: Suzanne Michel

Headquarters: Casa del Prado, Room #105, Balboa Park, 619-232-5762

Hours: Monday-Friday, 10:00 a. m.-3:00 p. m.

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# President's Letter

Why celebrate one centennial, when it is possible to celebrate two?

**Our first centennial celebration.** San Diego Floral Association celebrated its first one hundred years in 2007. Many special events marked the founding of our organization. Highlights included a kick off event at the Balboa Park Botanical Building, a flower show and tea at the U.S. Grant Hotel, and a historic garden tour. Floral also showed its centennial colors at the San Diego County Fair in Del Mar, at the butterfly release and rededication of the Zoro Garden in Balboa Park, and with a special exhibit at the San Diego Historical Society.

Past President Kay Harry filled the 2007 Centennial Year with many other activities and accomplishments, including a complete refurbishing of the Floral Association office in Balboa Park. If you have not visited us there, you are in for a treat. Our library and business functions are facilitated by a new arrangement of space and appropriate furniture and equipment. As a privilege of membership in the Floral Association you may consult the extensive library of gardening and horticulture books and check out books for use at home. New books are constantly being added. This library service is one way we fulfill the educational mission of our organization.

**A second centennial.** Floral's most important educational effort is the publication of a useful and reinvigorated magazine, *California Garden*. This leads me to the second centennial celebration for the Floral Association. In 2009, our organization will celebrate 100 years of continuous publication of this practical and useful magazine of horticulture and gardening and related events.

**Making history.** Why mark another centennial? Because an uninterrupted century of educational outreach through a magazine is a very significant achievement for a volunteer organization. In fact, it is an accomplishment of national and international stature. We can lay claim to the distinction of producing the longest continuously published garden magazine in California and the second oldest gardening magazine in the entire United States.

Magazines and other publications come and go in America. Think about famous national magazines like the *Saturday Evening Post*, or closer to home, the *San Diego Tribune*, once our late afternoon newspaper. These were commercial publications that did not stand the test of time, yet, here in our corner of the United States, a group of dedicated volunteers has for ninety-nine years sustained the continuous publication of *California Garden* for Floral Association members and other readers.

**2009 Centennial Events.** A California Garden Centennial Committee is at work—new volunteers are welcome. Our major activity will be the publication of a history book, reprinting some of the classic garden writing found in the first 99 volumes of *California Garden*. The centennial book also will identify and commemorate significant Floral Association officers, members and activities.

**Other news.** The new board of the Floral Association is tending to the business of the organization and creatively planning programs and events. Watch for details in our *Newsletter* or on our attractive and useful website. I look forward to getting to know many more of you as our organization moves into its second century and its work in "gardens, floral design and communities since 1907."

Nancy Carol Carter  
President, 2008-09

## *We Invite You to Celebrate Kate Sessions Birthday*

November 8, 2008  Beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Join us at the Marston Garden, 3525 7th Avenue, for a program about Kate Sessions by our president, Nancy Carter, with refreshments. Afterward we will proceed to the Kate Sessions statue and commemorate her with a living lei for her birthday.

**Participating organizations:** San Diego Floral Association.,  
San Diego Historical Society and Friends of Balboa Park.  
Friends of Marston will have Kate and George geraniums for sale.

## MOVING?

Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to: SDEA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Changes of address can also be submitted by email to [membership@sdfloral.org](mailto:membership@sdfloral.org).

# SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

## CRAFT AND FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

### ☐ NOVEMBER 6, 2008

#### Pine Needle Necklace

Make a necklace for the holidays as a gift or for yourself. This brand new class will teach you how to create a beautiful necklace with pine needles encasing a semi-precious stone. Bring sewing scissors, all other materials provided.

**Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members plus \$5 materials fee.**

**Teacher: Kathy Page**

### ☐ NOVEMBER 13, 2008

#### Floral Arranging 103

This is an intermediate floral arranging class for beginners. It is a continuation of "Now you are Arranging," and is where you can apply what you have already learned. Bring container, flowers, foliage and tools.

**Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members**

**Teacher: Linda Lindgren**

### ☐ NOVEMBER 20, 2008

#### Floral Arranging 104

Go beyond the basics and stretch your skills. Work with floral materials in a creative way, bending, wiring, cutting and shaping foliage and flowers to enhance your arrangement. Bring flowers, foliage and container.

**Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members**

**Teacher: Linda Lindgren**

## It's easy to register!

**Just fill out this form (or a copy of it) and mail it to San Diego Floral Association,  
1650 El Prado, #105  
San Diego, CA 92101-1684**

### PAYMENT FOR CLASSES MUST BE INCLUDED.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

All classes run from 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m., and are held in Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. Coffee and sweets will be provided; bring your own lunch and clippers. Call Kathy Page for more information about San Diego Floral Association workshops at 619-422-2845. To register and pay, call 619-232-5762. Classes limited to 10 persons and must be prepaid.

## In This Issue

We love this time of year! The air is clear and the nights are crisp. New plants and old slow down their evident growth.

Once the leaves of the deciduous trees have scamped off, it's a perfect time to focus on the skeleton of the fruit trees with an eye to maximizing production and ease of harvesting through careful, well planned pruning.

Learn how to select a beautiful living tree and how to trim it with great natural materials. And, don't forget to come to December Nights for more ideas.

Beyond just plants our book reviews cover animate creatures that complement our horticulture.

*Relax. Dream. Enjoy.*

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**Your subscription includes membership in  
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION!**

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With your subscription, you'll receive the magazine, our newsletter, access to the San Diego Floral Association horticultural library and member discounts on events, trips and classes.

To sign up for your subscription today, please print (or copy) the form below and return it to:  
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# Every Drop Counts

As the west suffers through another drought, the San Diego Natural History Museum presents *Water: H2O = Life*



**W**ater. It affects every single person on this planet but in vastly different ways. Some use water without thinking, while others who depend on it for their crops, gardens and more can only worry where their next drop of clean water will come from. This important issue is the topic of the San Diego Natural History Museum's new exciting exhibit, *Water: H2O = Life* ([www.sdnhm.org/exhibits/water](http://www.sdnhm.org/exhibits/water)).

Running through November 30, 2008, the traveling exhibit covers the long history and changing future of water, along with some helpful hints for water conservation at the exhibit's only West Coast venue. Dr. Exequiel Ezcurre, curator of *Water: H2O = Life*, feels that understanding water and our role in water conservation is vital to life in the future. "We are part of a complex ecosystem and we need to remember that water is a service provided by nature. Just like any other species, we cannot survive without water. However, in order to have water in the future, we need to change how we use water now."

Though nearly two-thirds of the earth is covered with water, we do not have an endless supply of water capable of sustaining crops and human life. Only three percent of the earth's water is fresh water and only a very small fraction of it is usable water. More than a billion people still do not get enough safe drinking water annually, and global climate change is affecting the transportation of water to cities that do not have their own water source.

Visitors to *Water: H2O = Life* will be able to understand serious issues facing water today through hands-on activities, colorful

maps and displays and innovative technology. The exhibition explores the history of water with a great example of a 1,500-year-old water pipe from Oaxaca, Mexico. It then looks to the future of restoring aquatic ecosystems in place like California's Mono Lake, the Mississippi River Delta and the Mesopotamian marshes.

*Water: H2O = Life* is divided into ten sections focusing on plant and animal life in the water, the chemical and physical properties of the H2O molecule, the way that people use water, the wettest and iciest places on earth, the driest and thus most water-poor areas on earth, how we get healthy drinking water, fragile ecosystems and tips to make a difference.

Inspired by the response to the traveling exhibit, and anticipating how important the issue of water has become to our region, the museum has dedicated a special exhibition to Southern California's water issues, which will stay open for the next two years after *Water: H2O = Life* is gone. *Water: A California Story* was developed to focus on water issues special to Southern California. Eighty five percent of our water in Southern California comes from the Colorado River or Northern California, and San Diego is experiencing its driest two-year period since 1801. Jim Stone, Vice President of Public Programs says, "The exhibition will address where our water comes from, how we use it and where it goes after we use it." Visitors will learn about water conservation and what that means on a practical level.

San Diego gardeners can take several helpful hints home from the exhibition. Simply fixing a leaky toilet can save 30 to 50 gallons of water per day per toilet. By shortening showers you can save 2.5 gallons of water per minute. By watering your lawn or garden before 6:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. you can save 20 to 25 gallons of water per day. Saving water in all parts of your daily life can lead to having more water for the state's food crops, etc.

At *Water: H2O = Life*, visitors will have their eyes opened about where our water comes from and how extremely critical it is for everyone to do their part to conserve it. By changing our own lives in little ways, we can make a big difference.

The museum is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission prices are: adults (\$13), seniors (\$11), active Military, youths and students (\$8), children ages 3 to 12 (\$7) and children 2 and under (free). More information on both exhibits can be found on The San Diego Natural History Museum's website, [www.sdnhm.org](http://www.sdnhm.org). Remember, *Water: H2O = Life* will only be in San Diego until November 30, 2008, so don't miss it. —Alyssa Holderbein

# Beauty or the Beast

Appreciating *Bromelia balansae*'s dramatic duality

Dig in!

My first experience with this striking plant was in the garden of Bruce Hubbard in Rancho Santa Fe. Its common name is "Heart of Flame" or "Pinuela" and that plant went up in smoke with our fires last year.

*Bromelia balansae*'s beauty is brilliant color. It begins with a brilliant red bud and glossy, scarlet bracts. Dark green leaves turn to a yellow-green and it has smallish lavender flowers.

In contrast to this exquisite beauty, the beast consists of a needle-sharp spine at each leaf tip and many hooked spines curving in both directions running along both sides of the leaf margins. It is native to Brazil and Argentina, where it is used as nearly impenetrable living fencing.

*Bromelia balansae* (pronounced bro-meel/ee/uh bol/an/see) belongs to the same family as the pineapple. No shrinking violet, this large bromeliad has a circular cluster of leaves that radiate from the center close to the ground. Reminiscent of a fleeing octopus, with its head down and tentacles waving, the dark green stiff leaves shoot out for up to two feet and are merely two inches wide.

Flowering begins in September when the six-inch bud at the center of the plant turns brilliant red. This bud initially resembles an artichoke, but gradually stretches out to a two-foot flower spike with leaf-like bracts that dramatically turn a beautiful lime green



with red-orange stripes along the edges. This is the most striking and beautiful stage of the plant's development. The actual bell-shaped white to lavender flowers form on the stalk between the red bracts.

Ultimately, small ovoid fruit form along the spike, ripening to orange-yellow with a sweet-acidic pineapple flavor.

Easy to grow, this unusual looking exotic likes good drainage and will thrive in poor soil. It will grow in partial shade and likes regular watering. Each spike blooms once and then dies back, but small offsets or pups form at the base which can be left to grow or can be cut off and planted separately. If the offsets are left to multiply, the plant may form clumps up to ten feet in diameter.

I suggest growing *Bromelia balansae* in a container to avoid the problem of weeding around its spines. When it is in bloom you can show it off, then move it out of sight when it is less interesting. It is a subtropical plant that needs to be protected from frost.

It is relatively pest free, but keep an eye out for aphids, mealy bugs and scale. If you see any of these pests the plant may be hosed off with a hard spray and/or wiped down (wearing appropriate protective gear). —Jim Stelluti, Consulting Landscape Artist for Extraordinary Placement of Objects and Plants

## A Gift of Trees Free conifers for Julian residents

Live holiday trees will have a somewhat different meaning in Julian this year. Horticulturist Bill Nelson, who retired and closed Pacific Tree Farms over a year ago is still passionate about growing trees.

Soon after our fires last year he started thinking about how he could combine his generous nature and skills to help both those affected by the fires and the native landscape. To this end he began doing one of the things he does best—growing trees, thousands of them.

But these trees will not be sold. They are part of a program to give away trees to high country residents who were affected by the fires. The trees are either native species or extremely well adapted to the back country around Julian. They include: Jeffrey pine, Ponderosa pine, incense cedar, Coulter pine and Cuyamaca cypress. Most of these trees will not grow well in areas that are less than 3,000 to 5,000 feet in altitude.

Seeds and seedlings were obtained from the California Department of Forestry from seed zones at the Julian level. The trees are being grown to a height of 10 to 20 inches and are about two years old.

The first tree giveaway for high country residents is being held on November 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Julian Library. Planting instructions will be provided. If you have questions about this program you may call Bill Nelson at 619-422-8887. —Lucy Warren

# Dig in!

## Toxic Plants for Pets

Advice for pet-owners about potentially dangerous plants

We love our houseplants and we love our pets. Unfortunately, many pets like to play with and eat plants, and many plants can not only make our pet dangerously sick, but may even cause their death. The main thing we can do as aware pet owners with houseplants is to monitor our pet's behavior, recognizing that many pets keep entertained by chewing on whatever they can and place plants in locations that are out of reach to our pets.

Additionally, we should become more informed about what plants might be dangerous to our pets. Read below for a list of ten of the most common toxic household plants, or visit the ASPCA website for more information on potentially hazardous houseplants.

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1) Lilies                | 6) Castor Bean |
| 2) Sago Palm             | 7) Cyclamen    |
| 3) Tulip/Narcissus bulbs | 8) Kalanchoe   |
| 4) Azalea/Rhododendron   | 9) Yew         |
| 5) Oleander              | 10) Pothos     |

(Please keep in mind that the plants mentioned above are just some of the many plants that are toxic to pets when ingested; if you believe that your pet has eaten a toxic plant, please contact your veterinarian right away. Also remember, any plant treated with an insecticide may also be poisonous to a pet, so take care to read labels carefully before using.)—*Dorothy Carroll*

## Toxic Plant, Sick Pet

What to do when your best animal bud gets ill

Vomiting, diarrhea, nervousness, difficulty breathing and more—these are all symptoms that your pets may experience if they have ingested toxic plants. So what do you do?

- 1) Remove any plant parts from your pet's mouth immediately, and do not attempt to induce your animal to vomit. Gently rinse around the inside of your pet's mouth with water, but do not force water as it may make the situation worse. Allow the animal a small drink of water.
- 2) Keep your animal calm, and if shivering, warm.
- 3) Look for changes to the animal's skin, such as redness, swelling or blisters.
- 4) Watch for foamy saliva.
- 5) Identify what plant you suspect your pet ate and then call your vet or nearest poison control center.
- 6) If asked to bring the animal in, bring any remaining plant parts with you, as it may be helpful for diagnosis. —*Dorothy Carroll*

Editor's Note: The content information for this article is courtesy of the ASPCA. For more information go to [www.ASPCA.org](http://www.ASPCA.org) and follow link to Poison Control.

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Give your favorite gardener or floral designer a gift that keeps on giving! For just \$20 a year your loved one will receive six issues of California Garden magazine and a membership to the San Diego Floral Association.

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# Friend or Foe: Asian Citrus Psyllid

Citrus lovers beware; there is a new threat to your trees and citrus-related plants

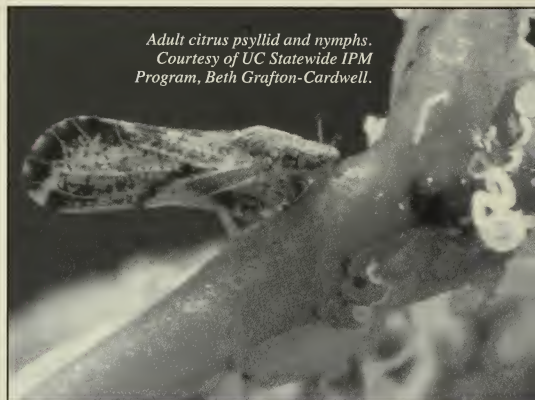
A large portion of San Diego County is now under quarantine for citrus due to a new invading pest, the Asian citrus psyllid. This means that if you are growing citrus or citrus related plants, such as curry plant or orange jasmine, do not transport any of your fruit or any part of your plants outside of the quarantine area. Even if you don't suspect infection in your plant, transporting fruit, cuttings or plants outside of the quarantine zone is now illegal. It can spread what many experts believe is one of the worst recent pest-borne threats to the California citrus industry. Information on the current, and possibly expanding quarantine zone, is available from the San Diego County Agriculture Commission office.

So, why is the Asia citrus psyllid so dangerous? Like the glassy winged sharpshooter, which has devastated our oleanders, the problem is not with the psyllid itself, but with a bacteria that is harbored by the insect. This bacteria causes a disease named Huanglongbing (HLB), which destroys the production, appearance and value of citrus trees. It has caused devastation to the citrus industry in Asia, in addition to other foreign locales, and is currently wrecking havoc in Florida. Infected trees produce bitter, inedible, misshapen fruit and eventually die from the disease. Unfortunately it may take years before the disease is evident, and by then the only option is to destroy the infected plant.

The Asian citrus psyllid was first caught locally in a sticky trap near Sweetwater Reservoir in late August. Over 250 additional psyllids were found nearby through a citrus inspection the following week. The psyllid could become an important pest in our county if the current infestation cannot be eradicated. With our current state budget crisis, it is possible that there will be no posse or funds available to round up these bad guys.

To identify this pest, you'll need to do a Sherlock Holmes with your magnifying glass to inspect your plants. The Asian citrus psyllid is tiny and primarily inhabits new foliage. Look carefully at the leaves, especially at new foliage to see if they are harboring the tiny one-eighth to one-sixth inch insects. They are mottled brown and shaped like a maple leaf key, oblong and tapering down to a bulge with tiny reddish eyes. The heads are down and the body sticks up at about 45 degrees. More static and probably more evident are the yellow orange almond shaped eggs tucked into the curl of tender new leaves. Check your trees monthly and even weekly during spurts of new leaf growth.

If you find the insect, secure it in a clear container and contact the San Diego County Agriculture Commission. You can take it to the office at 5555 Overland Drive, Building 3, call 858-694-2741 or email [sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov). Residents of other counties should contact their local agriculture commission using contacts found on a website which has been devoted to identifying this lethal pest: [www.californiacitrusthreat.org](http://www.californiacitrusthreat.org).



Adult citrus psyllid and nymphs.  
Courtesy of UC Statewide IPM  
Program, Beth Grafton-Cardwell.

If you are interested in planting a new citrus tree, your choices will be limited to nurseries that have been certified through a rigorous program to assure the trees harbor none of the insects. At this time, Evergreen Nursery citrus trees have been certified.

—Lucy Warren

## Everyone needs habitat.



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Dig  
in!

# TOYON

Holly Berry • Christmas Berry • By any name a great native plant

The holidays' signature colors are red and green and toyon fulfills this mission in spades. The dense evergreen foliage is dark green while the berries mature in bright showy red clusters from December to February. This plant also hosts lovely white blossoms in summer.

Perhaps as tribute to its popularity, the native California toyon has gone by many names. The timing of the ripening fruit led to the common designation, Christmas berry. The classic color combination along with serrated leaves inspired another of its common names, holly berry, although it is not a true holly. Its initial Latin designation was *Photinia arbutifolia* because it resembled that Asian genus; it later was deemed different enough to gain its own unique designation, *Heteromeles arbutifolia*.

It is a popular myth that the shrub inspired the naming of Hollywood, as it grows rampantly on the southern slopes of those hills, but there is no historical confirmation of that delightful story. What is documented is that the branches and berries were so popular for holiday decorations in Los Angeles in the 1920s that the State of California passed a law prohibiting collecting the branches on public land.

Fortunately for gardeners, the ban does not extend to private properties and this is a plant that is very tolerant of its growing conditions, including heat, smog, wind, full sun to shade and light or heavy soil. It grows throughout the state, from the coast up to an altitude of about 4,000 feet, so most gardeners can include it in their landscape.

Whether you need a shrub, hedge or small tree, toyon is also flexible in its shape. It is often pruned into a hedge or kept as a shrub, as it will soon grow to about six to eight feet tall and four

to five feet wide. In good to ideal conditions and lower branch pruning, toyons easily become lovely rounded 12 to 15 foot trees with multiple stems.

They are best planted from small containers and given periodic deep watering while young. Planting them in the ground now, during autumn to early winter, gives them the ideal opportunity to take advantage of seasonal rains and to become well established. Within a few years of planting, the toyon will develop a deep root system and will become highly drought tolerant. Given a little water every couple of weeks during the spring and summer, they also maintain fire resistance.

Being a member of the *Roseaceae* family, toyon is susceptible to fireblight. It needs good air flow, particularly along the coast where it may be affected by leaf fungus or bacteria. Heavy summer watering may also place it in danger of sudden oak death.

Toyon is attractive to birds and butterflies, making it a great choice for a natural wildlife habitat. Native tribes in California ate the berries raw, but it must have been an acquired taste as they are mealy and bitter and contain traces of cyanide compounds. They also brewed the berries into a tea for stomach disorders; the boiling volatilized off the bitter compounds. The cooked berries are somewhat more palatable (some people think they taste cherry-like) and with the addition of sugar can be made into jelly.

Native plants are working their way into general nurseries, but you are certain to find toyon nearby at Las Pilitas Nursery in Escondido ([www.laspilitas.com](http://www.laspilitas.com)) and Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano ([www.treeoflife.com](http://www.treeoflife.com)). Mission Hills Nursery retails locally grown natives from Moosa Creek Nursery ([www.moosacreeknursery.com](http://www.moosacreeknursery.com)) —Lucy Warren



## DECEMBER NIGHTS CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

Please visit Balboa Park this December 5th and 6th to enjoy December Nights and San Diego Floral Association's 36th annual Christmas Tree Display. It's our gift to the community.

This year's theme is "Festival of Trees—Decorating with Nature's Gifts." Bring your friends and family and see how local garden clubs, plant societies, florists and nurseries decorate trees using natural accents. Also, see stunning floral designs by the San Diego Floral Association Floral Guild. Traditional gingerbread cookies and beautiful protea will be offered for sale.

Stop by and see the trees in the Casa del Prado building, December 5 from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. and December 6 from 3:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. **ADMISSION IS FREE!**

For more information, call the SDFA Floral Office at 619-232-5762 or visit the Balboa Park December Nights website ([www.balboapark.org/decemberevents](http://www.balboapark.org/decemberevents)).

### SPECIAL THANKS:

Cheryl Gaidmore

Kay Harry

Kathy Taylor de Murrillo

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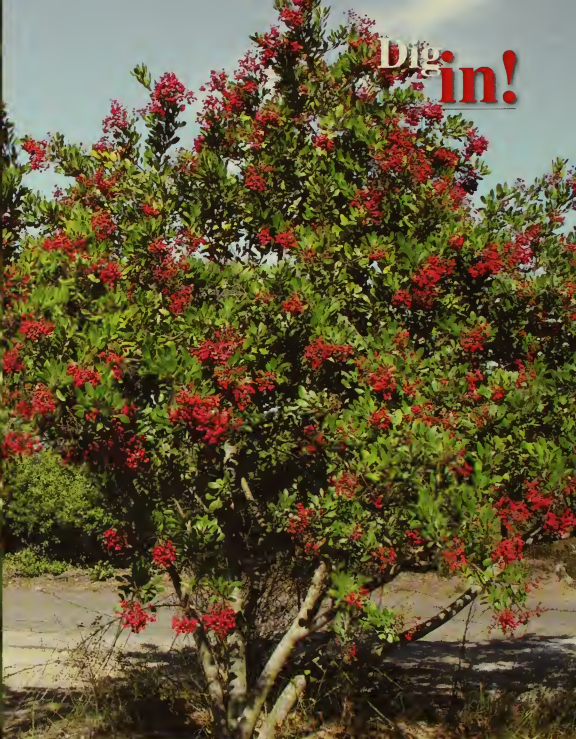
Michelle Kownacki

Connie Brown





PHOTOS: MARGARET L. FILLIUS





x *Cypresso-cyparis leylandii*

# Your *Living* Holiday Tree

## How to select and care for a great landscape addition

By Lucy Warren

Whether you live in an apartment or an estate, who can resist the fragrance and beauty of a traditional holiday conifer? More and more people are making a firm decision to buy a holiday tree that has not been cut down, but one that can be grown in a pot for future years or can be planted outdoors to enhance the landscape.

Bringing a tree into the house for the holidays is taking it out of its normal habitat and introducing it to an alien world. If you intend to keep and enjoy the tree after the holidays you must treat it with care and respect.

Think carefully about where you will plant it, whether you will grow it in the pot for several years or where it might be donated should you decide not to keep it. It's a good idea to call the potential charity or location to learn about their needs before purchase if you are going to make a donation to a school, park, camp or other place.

### What to Look For - Selecting a Tree

Although you may be attracted to the beautiful cool-climate, high-altitude conifers such as spruce or fir, if you truly want one of these varieties it would be better just to buy a cut tree. There is a reason why you won't see those trees in our landscapes—they just can't make it in our climate.

That being said, there are some excellent choices for trees that are climate-adapted to San Diego; most of these are either native trees or come from other Mediterranean climates.

Think about whether you will keep the tree in a pot or transfer it to the landscape soon after the holidays. Some trees, such as the Italian stone pines can adapt well to having limited root space, which is why they are popular for bonsai.

Check out the tree to make certain it is healthy. Avoid trees that seem to be shedding or have an abundance of yellowing or brown tips on the needles. Remember, healthy roots equal a healthy tree. Roots provide the critical nutrients to keep the tree healthy and alive. Be certain to check the pot to be sure the tree is not rootbound. Be certain that the rootball is firm if the root ball is balled and burlapped.



*Pinus sp.*

When you have purchased your tree, be careful that you don't injure the root system. Never carry the tree by its trunk or drop it on its rootball. You might want to have some extra plastic bags or blankets to wrap around the pot so you don't lose any dirt in transport.

### Caring for Your Tree Through the Holidays

Once you have selected your tree and brought it home it can be kept outside until you are ready to bring it in and decorate it. Keeping it in a shaded area or unheated sheltered area with free airflow for a few days to a week or so will ease the transition from outdoors into the house.

When you are ready to bring it in, it's a good idea to check to see if it has picked up any insects or insect egg masses. A good hosing down should take care of any problems.

It is highly recommended that you purchase an antidesiccant or antiwilt spray,

such as Cloud Cover or Wilt Pruf, and apply it to the tree before bringing it into the house. This will aid the tree in keeping its moisture while it is in the hot, dry atmosphere of your home, and will go a long way to assure its survival. Also, try to position the tree away from direct blast from heat vents, in the coolest part of the room with as much natural sunlight as possible.

When you bring the tree in you will want to protect your floor, stabilize the tree and make certain that the rootball stays moist without being oversaturated. Many find that a galvanized tub provides a good, waterproof base. Rocks or bricks can be used to fill the space and to stabilize the tree into position. Watering the tree is critical—be sure to water the pot or rootball directly to moisten the soil. You will want enough water to keep the roots moist, but not leave it soggy or sitting in water and drowning the roots. Check the water every day and add as necessary.

In setting up the strings of lights, use the cooler mini-lights to avoid burning the tree.

Schedule your tree's inside visit and stick to the schedule. Some experts say that a healthy tree shouldn't stay inside more than four days, but more agree that seven to ten days should be the maximum if you want to maintain a healthy tree. We know you want to be kind, but resist the urge to fertilize the tree either before it comes in or while it is inside. There is plenty of time to do that at planting or during its growing season.

After the holidays, reverse the acclimatization process by taking your tree back to the shady or sheltered location for a week or so before introducing it back into full sunlight.

## Well-Adapted Living Holiday Trees for San Diego

Following are a few basic characteristics of some potential trees you might want to use as living holiday trees. These trees will grow in our climate and will survive in our summer heat. Pines, in particular, are hardy here and some tolerate difficult conditions. When you see them, we're sure you will take into consideration the shade of the foliage, form, drought resistance and even fragrance. Remember to have an appropriate spot picked out where it will thrive after the season is over, a place with room for a mature tree. Or, if you decide to leave it as a container plant, pay attention to its needs for water, fertilizing and care. To keep the pines small enough for the container, you'll need to pinch back most of the spires of new growth in the spring.

### Deodar Cedar – *Cedrus deodara*

Light green to silver needles with somewhat drooping branch tips are characteristic of this Himalayan native. It will grow to 80 feet tall and 40 feet wide. There are numerous cultivars with specific characteristics.

### Arizona Cypress – *Cupressa arizonica*

Native to central Arizona, this adaptable tree matures to about 40 feet by 20 feet wide. Scale like leaves are variable from silvery gray to bluish to medium green.



### Mexican Pinon Pine – *Pinus cembroides*

May be difficult to find in San Diego as it is a slow grower native to Baja and the desert mountains. Well adapted to a container, the mature plant grows 10 to 20 feet tall and 8 to 16 feet wide. Dark green, short, stiff needles in pairs. Bonus is that cones produce edible seeds, known in markets as pine nuts.

### Afghan or Russian Pine – *Pinus elderica*

Native to Afghanistan and South Russia. Classic, dense pine shape with dark green needles in twos that are five to six inches long. Rapid growth to a height of 30 to 80 feet tall and 15 to 20 feet wide. There is a cultivar called Christmas Blue which has blue-green needles. It has a pleasant pine aroma. Well adapted, beautiful tree.



### Leppo Pine – *Pinus halepensis*

A Mediterranean region native that has an open irregular crown with many short branches. Light green color needles grow in pairs about two to four inches long. Good for poor soils, heat and sea coast. Grows fairly quickly to a height of 30 to 60 feet and 20 to 40 feet wide.

### Italian Stone Pine – *Pinus pinea*

Native to Southern Europe, the Italian stone pine is stout and densely bushy when young, with stiff bright green long, five to six inches, needles in pairs. At maturity it develops a long thick trunk, growing as tall as 40 to 80 feet and 40 to 60 feet wide—far too large for a small garden. It's salt tolerant and works well in beach gardens.

### Monterey Pine – *Pinus radiata*

Very attractive tree native to Central California coast with great fragrance. Bright green three to seven inch needles in pairs or threes. Subject to many pests and diseases (such as pitch canker) even in ideal conditions but grows well in Southern California.

### Japanese Black Pine – *Pinus thunbergia*

Lustrous, dark green three to four inch needle in pairs. This tree from Japan is resistant to pollution and salt. Thrives in rich, moist, well-drained soil. Can grow very tall (100 feet) but may mature to as little as 20 feet tall by ten feet wide in desert areas. May be susceptible to numerous pests and diseases.

### Torrey Pine – *Pinus torreana*

Local native with long needles, six to twelve inches, in sets of five ranging from light gray-green to dark green. Fast growing, matures at 40 to 60 feet tall by 30 to 50 feet wide.

### Coast Redwood – *Sequoia sempervirens*

Native to the Central Coast northward in a moist environment, this beautiful tree has no problem being next to regularly watered lawn areas. Matures to 50 to 70 feet tall and 15 to 30 feet wide. Needle-like one inch long medium green leaves grow opposite in series along the stem, giving a feathery look. There are numerous cultivars to consider.

Thinking out of the box, or out of the Conifer family as may be the case, there are plants which have the pyramidal form reminiscent of a Christmas tree such as the Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) which is sometimes used as a houseplant. Rosemary can be trimmed as a small tree. For many years of apartment living I would annually decorate a multibranched piece of driftwood with tiny silver balls. It was easy care and completely drought tolerant.

# Decorating Naturally

Sheryl Lozier, owner of Summers Past Farms, shows you how to trim your Christmas tree using natural items

By Alyssa Holderbein



**D**ecember Nights. It may not be the official start to the holidays in San Diego, but for the last 29 years it has come close. Hosted in Balboa Park, December Nights is a weekend of holiday fun, featuring free admission to the museums, great cultural events, decorations and crafts galore and lots of mouth-watering food. It's also a chance to visit the San Diego Floral

Association's annual Christmas tree display. Since 1972, the Floral Association has displayed Christmas trees decorated to fit a theme as a gift to the community; many of the garden clubs, plant and flower societies of San Diego enter trees, and families from around the county and beyond come to "ooh" and "aah" at the results. Indeed, many families go home wondering how they can incorporate the designs they saw at the park into their own home Christmas displays.

This year's theme is "Festival of Trees – Decorating with Nature's Gifts." In an effort to get the public to stray away from using artificial decorations in their holiday displays, one of the decorators' rules this year is, 'if it is alive or if it ever was alive, it is fine.' Rose hips, pine cones, flowers, you name it; if it's produced by nature it is fair game for use on the Christmas tree. Anticipating some of the questions about "how it's done," we asked decorating expert Sheryl Lozier, of Summers Past Farms, to put together a nature-themed Christmas design project anyone can do at home. By following these step-by-step instructions, you should be able to recreate your own naturally decorated tree in no time at all. (Note: Sheryl designed her tree to stay outside at Summers Past Farms but the tree can also be used inside or outside on a patio or balcony.)

## Project: Decorating with Nature's Gifts for the Holidays

### Materials

- 1 Aleppo Pine tree, small to medium size
- 1 large pot
- 2 dozen dried pomegranates
- 2 dozen sea stars in different sizes

- 1 dozen small glass Christmas balls
- 24 sprigs of rosemary
- 6 sprigs of eucalyptus
- 1 pound dried or fresh cranberries
- Assorted bougainvillea blossoms
- Assorted seashells for around the base
- Green Raffia
- Glue gun



### Directions

**Step One:** Pot the tree and arrange mixed seashells around the base of tree.

**Step Two:** Cut the eucalyptus and rosemary sprigs into various sizes. Can be up to 14". Fill in the tree where it is sparse. You can stick the sprigs in the tree on their own. Wire isn't necessary.

**Step Three:** To make ornaments out of the pomegranate bulbs, attach pieces of green raffia to the bulbs with a glue gun. Hang bulbs on the tree after the glue has dried. Fresh pomegranates will be too heavy and they can take months to dry. Dried pomegranates are available at Summers Past Farms for \$1 each.

**Step Four:** Hang shiny Christmas bulbs on tree to match the pot if you so desire. (For a natural alternative, choose dried flowers that match the pot.)

**Step Five:** Use approximately one pound of dried cranberries and bougainvillea to create the garland. String a row of cranberries and then sections of bougainvillea alternately on a thread and drape on tree. Fresh cranberries would be nice as well if you can find them at a store.

**Step Six:** The starfish go on the tree last. To make the starfish into ornaments, attach pieces of green raffia to the starfish with a glue gun. Hang the starfish on tree. Thread or ribbon could work as well instead of the raffia. Starfish are available at Summers Past Farms for \$3 each. (An alternative is to use seashells, using shells found on local beaches.)

There will be many more examples of how to incorporate natural items into decorations at San Diego Floral Association's December Nights Christmas display. December Nights will be held this year on December 5-6. The hours on Friday are 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Saturday hours are 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. "The Festival of Trees - Decorating with Nature's Gifts" will be in Room 101 of the Casa del Prado. Please stop by!

**OUR EXPERT** Sheryl Lozier has been working with natural items in decoration since she was a little girl. She remembers decorating Christmas trees with her mother and using baby's breath to fill out the tree. Summers Past Farms ([www.summerspastfarms.com](http://www.summerspastfarms.com)) is located in Flinn Springs and was founded by Sheryl and her husband Marshall in 1987. The farm features countless gardens, a herb nursery, a herbal soap shoppe and the Green Bean Coffee Bar. They offer classes on most weekends, as well.

# Garden Conversations: December Nights

Cheryl Gaidmore of the Mission Hills Garden Club discusses her involvement in SDFA's December Nights event.

By Alyssa Holderbein

Since 1972, the San Diego Floral Association has participated in the city's annual December Nights ([www.balboapark.org/decembernights](http://www.balboapark.org/decembernights)) community event in Balboa Park, presenting themed, decorated Christmas trees and floral displays to the public for free. Taking a break from planning for 2008's December Nights, Mission Hills Garden Club ([www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)) founder and San Diego Floral Association Board Member Cheryl Gaidmore shares her behind-the-scenes look at December Nights and her garden club.

**California Garden:** What garden club are you affiliated with, and how is that club affiliated with December Nights?

**Cheryl Gaidmore:** The Mission Hills Garden Club. We are an exhibitor with the San Diego Floral Association's December Nights display.

**CG:** How long have you been affiliated with SDFA's December Nights efforts?

**Gaidmore:** Eight Years. I was asked to be on the committee for Christmas on the Prado, which is now called December Nights. I currently share a co-chair for the December Nights committee with Kay Harry and Kathy Taylor de Murrillo.

**CG:** What was it about December Nights that made you want to get involved? What makes it special to you?

**Gaidmore:** I believe it is one of the largest events in San Diego and it is free to the public. Even the museums have free admission during those two days. Many people are given the opportunity to attend museums and cultural events that maybe wouldn't have before, including a tremendous number of children. That makes it very special.

**CG:** What is your role in getting the SDFA December Nights tree display ready every year?

**Gaidmore:** Orchestrating where the trees and lights are placed. Setting up and dismantling is my major role.

**CG:** Are you involved in coming up with the overall theme for the SDFA display? If not, who is?

**Gaidmore:** I have been involved with the committee that is in charge with coming up with the theme for the last eight years. This year's theme is "Festival of Trees—Decorating with Nature's Gifts."

**CG:** How does your group decide on its specific December Nights design?

**Gaidmore:** The San Diego Floral Association December Nights committee decides on the theme and each group stays within the guidelines of the theme.

**CG:** What is the most frustrating part of December Nights planning? The best?

**Gaidmore:** Getting the members of the organizations to participate is frustrating. There are about 50,000 people coming to December Nights and it takes a lot of manpower to pull it off. The best part is being able to provide a number of people with an exciting event in the month of December that is free. To see the joy on so many faces is great. I think there are many underprivileged kids that normally wouldn't get to do something like this but they can come to this event because it is free.

**CG:** Tell us a little bit about your garden club. When do you meet and how does one join?

**Gaidmore:** The Mission Hills Garden Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. we have a speaker. It can be someone talking about roses, trees, bees, anything. We meet at the Mission Hills United Church of Christ. To get more information visit our website or call 619-923-3624.

**CG:** Besides December Nights, what other gardening events do you take part in? Is there a particular plant you like to grow, or floral design you like you create?

**Gaidmore:** I'm very involved in the Mission Hills Garden Club, which is a really proactive group. We give scholarships to the junior colleges in horticulture. We provide funding for gardening material for grammar schools. We put up hanging baskets to beautify the neighborhood. I'm also involved with Petals 4 Patriots. Dos Gringos in Vista supply free and fresh flowers once a month to the Mission Hills Garden Club. We then make floral arrangements for the wounded warriors at the Balboa Naval Hospital.

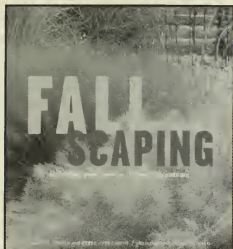
**CG:** In your opinion, what is the biggest benefit of being a garden club member?

**Gaidmore:** Being able to establish a new organization within a community where it was lacking. Through the success of the organization, being able to contribute to the local community and also reach out to the larger San Diego community.



# Reviews

All of the books reviewed in *California Garden* are part of the San Diego Floral Association Library collection (located in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA). Come, browse—and if you're a SDFA member—check them out!



## ***Fallscaping: Extending Your Garden Season into Autumn***

By Nancy J. Ondra and  
Stephanie Cohen  
Storey Publishing  
\$23 (paperback), 240 pages

Autumn. It is an interesting time for gardeners in Southern California. Instead of using the season to bed down for winter, we continue to dig, plant and enjoy. And though not designed with our specific climate in mind, that's the general concept behind *Fallscaping: Extending Your Garden Season into Autumn*, a book dedicated to shining a spotlight on the joys of gardening beyond the more hyped summer session.

*Fallscaping* is actually an interesting guide for San Diegans because many of the tips can be utilized beyond the intended autumn period into winter. The Land of Four Seasons's fall may be our winter, as far as threat of frost and average temperature goes, and so it is useful to evaluate this book not just for what it can bring to your garden in late October after the Santa Anas pass, but what it may bring in November, December—even January.

The book is jam packed with beautiful photography; eye-catching shots of bold fall colors that will make you want to transform your garden into a red, purple and gold paradise. The authors go beyond recommending the traditional 'fall plants' and encourage using everything from vines to grasses to create gardens that glow. Seasonal plants are mixed with year-round plants to create ten stunning sample gardens, and there are sections dedicated to the more tedious, but necessary aspects of gardening like saving seeds and properly cleaning and storing garden tools.

Will you be able to use all of the advice in this book? Not likely, however, there are enough tidbits to give even the most apathetic autumn gardener a kick in the pants. —Amy R. Wood

## ***The Wildlife Gardener's Guide***

By Janet Marinelli  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden Publishing, Co.  
\$10 (paperback), 120 pages

This is a great read for those persons who are just starting out in the wild and woolly hobby of wildlife gardening. The book manages to cover a lot of ground, literally and figuratively, by suggesting what to plant to attract a bounty of wonderful animals such as butterflies, bees, beneficials, bats and birds. Not only do animals like these provide the garden-lover hours of visual beauty and interest; the songbird contingent bathes the ears in wonderful music.

Although *The Wildlife Gardener's Guide* covers habitats across the entire U.S., there is enough good stuff about our particularly unique section of the country to warrant a look at this book. In fact, you'll probably want to buy your own copy. Some things I particularly liked about the book are as follows.

There is an emphasis on growing plants native to the reader's particular region, thereby increasing the odds of getting the small desired beasts to show up in your very own yard. Native plants, as many of us know, are the ones that our birds and butterflies have "grown up with," and in most cases are key to their survival. Wild animals have it hard enough as it is, what with humans paving over Mother Earth with obscenely larger shopping malls and slicing through wildlife habitats by installing miles of freeways patrolled by terminator SUVs, etc.

The book encourages gardening organically and responsibly, and discourages using pesticides. The section about using beneficial insects as bug control is very good.

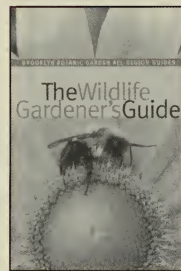
For those of us who want more information, the book provides numerous excellent websites for us to investigate. In fact, doing more investigating is a necessity for those of us who wish to attract butterflies, since butterfly caterpillars are notoriously finicky eaters whose tastes vary from region to region.

There is a nice section on gardening in containers, which is very helpful to those who do not have large yards. Remember that if you want to observe wildlife up close and personal, a large, movable pot lets you put the plant (and its fuzzy or feathered patron) right where you want it.

Basic information and helpful suggestions are offered in a concise, easily understood format. For such a small, pleasant-to-handle publication, it is amazing how much relevant and useful wildlife gardening info it contains. Unlike many current political commentary pundits, this book actually is of use.

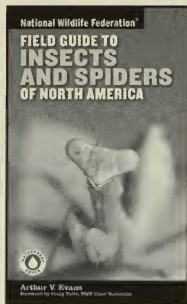
To inspire us, there are colorful photographs and well-drawn illustrations of plants and animals that we lucky ducks may be able to attract.

Consider this book. To paraphrase that inimitable song by The Troggs (remember them?), "Wild thing(s), you make my heart sing." —Pat Pawlowski



## National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Insects and Spiders of North America

By Arthur V. Evans  
Sterling Publishing  
\$20 (paperback), 496 pages



As a gardener, it is critical to be able to recognize the insects and spiders that inhabit your outdoor space. Some are friends and some are foes, and knowing which ones are present can make all the difference in the health of your garden. Once a foe is identified, proactive steps can be taken to eradicate it – reduce its negative impact.

*The Field Guide to Insects and Spiders of North America* is an exhaustive collection of every known North American insect and spider organized by Class, Order, Family and Species. For each insect or spider, the guide lists a common name, scientific name, size, geographic range, description and color picture. There is also an introduction to each Order that describes the overall characteristics, distribution and diet of the species that comprise it.

The guide is well written and extremely detailed, with color pictures of each species that make it easy to identify the bug of interest as well as its diet: will it munch on your garden or help by eating other pests? The guide, however, offers no advice or solution for getting rid of foes. A description of safe eradication of pests would be especially handy from the gardener's perspective. There are two interesting sections about attracting insects and photographing them at the end of the guide that are a nice bonus.

Overall, the guide is a strong tool for identifying insects and getting basic information about them. However, you will need to do some more research to figure out how to safely guard your garden from the bad ones and attract the good ones.

—Elizabeth V. Phillips

## National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Birds of North America

By Edward S. Brinkley  
Sterling Publishing  
\$20 (paperback), 528 pages

According to the National Audubon Society, birding is second only to gardening as the most popular hobby for Americans. It is no wonder, then, that many gardeners are birders, and vice versa. Both offer the outdoors, beautiful sights and sounds, and of course, an on-going effort to identify and understand what you see.

Because identifying birds is one of the major parts of the sport of birding, it is important to have a

good field guide that you can rely on for information and images. The *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Birds of North America* is a well-organized and attractive guide, and is a good candidate for birders of all skill and interest levels.

It has a waterproof cover, which is essential for any book bound to see the outdoors, and though a little on the heavy side, is portable enough to take on hikes and other outdoor expeditions. It has a good section explaining bird topography (the different parts of a bird) and terminology. It is also quite affordable.

Those enamored of the popular *Sibley Field Guide to Birds* will appreciate the *National Wildlife Federation's* organization; like *Sibley's*, each bird is given a brief biographical write up, including its common and scientific names, size, voice and range alongside an image to be used for identification comparisons. Like *Sibley's*, the information is concise and informative; many a bird will be properly ID'd with this book's help.

The differences come in how the bird's image is presented. *Sibley's* is famous for its illustrations, which include numerous angles (highlighting the bird in flight, for instance). *The National Wildlife Federation* relies exclusively on photographs—approximately 2,100 of them—and each entry usually includes both adult and juvenile views taken in the bird's habitat. Whether you prefer illustrations or photographs is up to you, so before considering buying this guide, compare the two volumes and see which you like best.

This reviewer found the *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide* to be favorable when compared to another well-loved volume, the *National Audubon Society Field Guide to North America*, in regards to organization. Having all of the bird's information in one entry, rather than flipping between photo and bio, is extremely helpful when identifying numerous birds quickly.

If you prefer using photographs to ID, and you don't mind a little extra heft, this is a good guide for burgeoning and expert birder alike. —Amy R. Wood

Special thanks to the generosity of Elise Topham, former librarian of the Association, the floral library has a reference copy of *Colour Schemes for the Flower Garden*, by Gertrude Jekyll. This book is a reprint of the 1908 garden classic. The library also owns a circulating copy of the same entitled book *Colour in the Flower Garden*.



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## San Diego County Orchid Society

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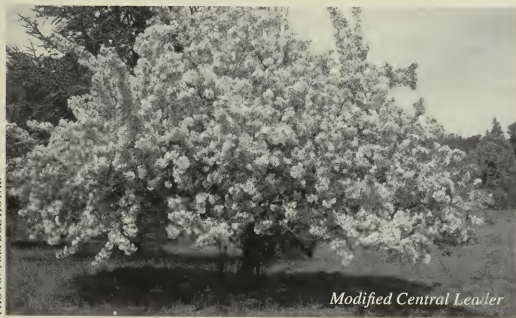
# Pruning Fruit Trees

## The whats, whys and hows of taming your overgrown trees

By Tom Del Hotal

One of the most intimidating tasks gardeners face is annual pruning. Staring down an overgrown fruit tree with twigs and branches akimbo strikes fear in the hearts of most neophytes and many advanced gardeners. Fruit trees are particularly terrifying because the wrong techniques could severely impair future fruit production. Trees of different types require different techniques depending on how they produce fruit.

Over the years pruning theory has undergone significant change and the latest methods, which are addressed here, will not only assure optimal fruit production, but will also help you structure a tree so that it will be progressively easier to care for in the years to come. Good pruning practices reduce the amount of pruning you need to do in subsequent years. So let's get started on this exciting project!



### Reasons to Prune

Pruning is essential for the structural strength of any tree, and is especially important on fruit trees. Heavy crops of fruit can easily break branches, severely damaging main scaffold limbs or split trunks. Basic guidelines for structural pruning are as follows:

- Train scaffold branches to be spaced along the trunk both vertically and radially when trees are young. These are the structural branches of the tree that radiate out from the trunk. To be effective they need to have space or you won't be able to get enough light into the tree to promote fruit production. Ideally they will grow evenly from the trunk in all directions (radially) as you circle the tree and have enough vertical distance between them to promote new branch growth upward.
- Prune off branches that grow down from the bottom side of attached branches. (Unless this is going to become the new terminal end of the branch and you elect to prune out the upper branch.)
- Increase the crotch angle of branches to greater than 30 degrees

by spreading branches apart or by pruning off one of the branches. The crotch is the point where two branches come together. The branches may naturally grow tightly together or more widely spread apart. Pruning and widening help structure, form and strength.

- Remove co-dominant leaders by removing or reducing one of the branches. The leader is the uppermost part of the trunk. Sometimes two branches grow straight upward and seek to be the primary upward growing tip. This weakens the tree, so you want to either remove one of them or cut one shorter so that it becomes a more typical branch and not the leader. Occasionally one of the branches can be redirected into a lateral branch by spreading the branch. This redirected branch will no longer be co-dominant. The crotch angle should be spread to 30 degrees or larger.

Health is another major reason to prune. Prune off the four D's: dead, damaged, diseased and dysfunctional branches. Taking away the four d's will noticeably improve the health of your tree, and is a great first step in reclaiming a tree that has lost its way.

Pruning trees to specific shapes is important if your goal is optimal fruit production. The basic pruning shapes are "open vase" or "modified open vase" for trees in the genus *Prunus*, "central leader" or "modified central leader" for all others. These will be discussed more fully later in the article. Additionally, many fruit trees can also be pruned or shaped for specific function in the landscape, such as to create shade or patio trees, hedges, screens or espaliers.

### Getting Specific

You'll want to prune to leave flowering and fruiting wood for specific fruit types. Fruit doesn't grow just anywhere on the tree. Depending on the type of tree the fruit may grow on new current season growth, on wood that grew last year (one-year old wood) or for several years on the same permanent spurs specifically adapted for fruiting. Obviously this means that you will prune trees differently, taking the fruiting habit into consideration. Some people who complain that their trees "just don't produce" either haven't pruned them at all in a number of years or have pruned out all the fruiting wood each year.

Thin branches and fruiting wood to allow adequate light penetration and air circulation for proper fruit development for each fruit tree type. Think about having a nice open leaf pattern so the pollinators will have an easy time finding the flowers and the fruit will get enough sunlight to ripen and you'll get the idea.

Fruit trees that are pruned to their maximum size will produce the greatest amount of fruit, so pruning to size is important. These trees are pruned into central leader or modified open vase shapes. To keep fruit trees smaller for ease of picking the fruit, to get more trees into an area or because of space limitations, prune to modified central leader or open vase shapes.

It is essential to remember as you begin your pruning project: never top or head branches or trees! This is where you essentially whack off the tops of the tree and ends of branches with no consideration to growth pattern or tree structure. (The only exception is when you are pollarding a tree, a technique that prunes off all new growth each year, seldom used in home gardens and not recommended for fruit trees.) Topping or heading has many harmful effects on tree growth and tree health. The results include excessive, poorly attached branch growth, disease and decay and starvation, among others. It never results in reducing the size of the tree long term!

Reduce the height or width of a tree or the length of a branch with thinning cuts by the pruning technique known as drop-croching. This method of reducing the size of a tree relies on finding a strong side branch along the main stem that can assume control over the tree, then removing the part of the tree that is growing above or beyond this branch. Instead of trimming the top, which leaves flat, squared-off stubs, drop-croching allows the tree to react quickly and effectively to the pruning.

Directing or redirecting growth is another reason to prune. Manage the growth in the tree so that one branch or side of the tree does not overgrow the other portions of the tree and so that the tree keeps a balanced shape. Prune to a terminal branch (one which has a growing tip) to direct growth in that direction. As branches bend downward from the weight of fruit, foliage or wood, they often need to be pruned back into an upright growing position. Use the same drop-croching pruning technique only shortening the branch to the side to redirect growth.

Most deciduous fruit trees are grafted, and for that reason you should use pruning to manage suckers, also known as root suckers. This includes pruning out all growth from below the graft or from the root system. Removing suckers prevents the root stock from dominating and dwarfing out or killing the desired grafted tree.

You'll also use pruning to manage water sprouts. Water sprouts are vigorously growing upright shoots arising from above the graft union on grafted trees. In some cases, water sprouts can be trained to form strong branches and may be beneficial. If water sprouts are excessively crowded, have narrow crotch angles, are crossing or rubbing or are causing poor branch or tree structure, they should be removed.

## When to Prune

A pruning cut is a wound that is a possible entry point for decay, diseases or insects. Improperly timing your pruning jobs can predispose plants to attack by insects, diseases or damage from sunburn or sunscald. Most pruning should be done on deciduous fruit trees during the winter months when the trees are dormant and when insect populations are suppressed by the winter cold. In some cases, lighter summer pruning can be beneficial for keeping trees smaller, however many bark boring insects are promoted by summer pruning. If these insects are common in your area, keep summer pruning activities to a minimum.

## Getting Started: Cutting

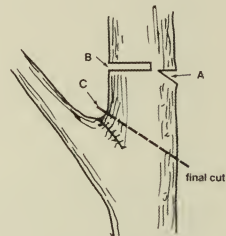
Even though pruning is necessary, cuts to any plants are considered wounds. Plants "heal" a wound by a process called compartmentalization. This process surrounds the wounded

area both internally and externally with tissue that has greater resistance to decay. The wounded area never grows back together and this wound remains a weakened area for the life of the plant.

Cutting a small branch and making a small wound is always more desirable than cutting a larger branch and making a larger wound. Larger wounds take longer to "heal" (or compartmentalize) and leave greater potential for attack by decay organisms, diseases and insects.

## Types of Cuts

There are two types of pruning cuts: thinning cuts and heading/topping cuts. Thinning cuts are used to remove an entire branch or stem at the point of origin. Another thinning cut, drop croching, involves cutting back to the crotch of a branch which is at least one-third of the diameter of the branch that is being removed. Drop crotch pruning is a recommended method for reducing the size of a plant in both height and width.



*Drop crotch pruning*

Heading/topping cuts are cuts made to remove a portion of a branch, stem or trunk. Cuts are made without regard to the position of the cut or to lateral branch attachment. Heading cuts usually result in excessive branch development below the cut. These branches are usually poorly attached and frequently break off damaging the branch or trunk they were attached to. Heading/topping cuts are not recommended.

## Making Cuts

When making thinning cuts, remove the branch at the top of the collar or shoulder of the remaining branch. The collar is the wrinkled area you will see where a secondary branch grows out of a larger branch. The collar surrounds the base of the younger branch, the top of the collar is called the branch-bark ridge. The collar is a sensitive and critical junction. Making a cut just to the outside of the collar area assures optimal healing and tree health.

The thinning cut will trigger a "wound response," which initiates compartmentalization and callus tissue formation at the wound site.

Never leave stubs, as the cut will not compartmentalize, and decay and disease will enter the wound where the dead stub is left to decay.

Never make flush cuts which remove a portion of or the entire collar. This makes a larger wound, which takes longer to compartmentalize and also removes the collar or shoulder, which is helpful in triggering the wound response.

Never make ripped or torn cuts.

When removing a larger branch, follow the three cut process to prevent damage to the bark. First, use a back cut at the base to prevent bark tearing. Next, make a cut a little bit above the back cut to remove the weight of the top of the tree or end of the branch. Finally, make a slanted drop-crotch cut—a good pruning slice parallel with but a small distance to the outside of the branch-bark ridge.

If no collar or shoulder is present, prune at a mirrored angle to the branch bark.

## Training

Training branches to grow in specific directions is often a viable option to pruning. This can take advantage of growth that has already developed, instead of pruning off already grown branches and waiting for new branches to grow.

Using training techniques also avoids wounds made by pruning and therefore reduces problems associated with those wounds. Training should be done when branches are young and flexible enough to bend into shape without breaking or splitting the branch or trunk. Weights, guy wires, stakes or spreaders can be used to train branches. If ties are used, the tie material should be at least one inch wide wherever it comes into contact with the bark of the tree so it will not damage the bark.

## Pruning Styles

Understanding that not every tree is the same, and therefore should not be pruned in the same way, is vital before beginning any pruning project. By choosing the correct pruning method, you help ensure that you're doing what's best for your tree. The two most used are the open vase and modified open vase, and the central leader and modified central leader techniques.



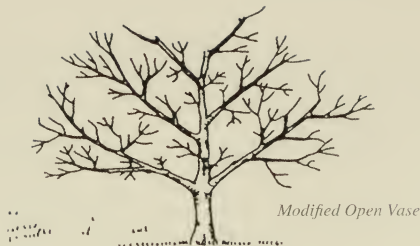
### Open Vase and Modified Open Vase

Open vase and modified open vase pruning styles are used to maximize fruit production and fruit quality for fruit trees in the genus *Prunus*. *Prunus* includes peach, nectarine, plum, apricot and their interspecific hybrids.

The open vase style resembles a bowl. Scaffold branches and secondary scaffold branches make up the sides of the bowl. All branches that grow towards the center of the bowl are removed to allow light and air to reach the interior of the tree. Low growing or small branches should be left as long as they do not congest this open interior of the "bowl." These branches assist in increasing branch diameter (caliper) and strength as well as help to protect the bark from sunburn. If these branches are fruiting branches, leaving these branches will help bring fruit lower and therefore fruit will be easier to harvest.

The modified open vase pruning style differs from the open vase style by having more than one level or layer. Each level or layer is made up of a smaller "bowl" above and within the larger, lower bowl. Sufficient distance must be maintained between these layers to allow for good air circulation and good light penetration to the lower layer or layers.

Large trees can have up to three layers, so that the overall appearance of the tree resembles candelabra. This results in a larger tree and greater fruit production than the open vase style. Open vase shaped and modified open vase shaped trees will need to have an average of 40 to 60 percent of growth removed on



a yearly basis. Good pruning practices will help to reduce the amount of growth removed each year so that 20 to 40 percent branch removal is common.

### HOW-TO: OPEN VASE AND MODIFIED OPEN VASE

**Step 1:** Remove all suckers.

**Step 2:** Look at the entire tree and determine which branches need to be removed or redirected to open the center "bowl" or vase. Use pruning or training techniques to open the center of the tree.

**Step 3:** After the center has been opened up, ignore the overall tree until the final steps of the pruning process. Start pruning each scaffold limb one at a time, beginning with the lowest scaffold limb first. Start at the tree trunk and work your way towards the end of the branch.

Prune for health, structural strength and flower and fruit production, as well as to thin out crowded branches. If branches are growing vertically and are crossing limbs which are growing above them, drop-crotch or remove the limb to prevent overcrowding and crossing branches.

After being properly pruned, the overall appearance of the scaffold branch will often be feather-like, with side branches and fruiting wood mainly attached to the top and sides of this branch. Small branches and fruiting spurs may be attached to the bottom of the scaffold, provided they are not too crowded.

As the scaffold branch matures, the ends of the branch will develop into a shape that resembles an outstretched arm and hand, with the "fingers" of the hand pointing upward and the "palm" of the hand directed towards the center of the tree. Branches should be spaced along the scaffold limb, alternating from side to side. The "fingers" and hand should form an open "cup" at the end of each limb.

**Step 4:** Move to the next scaffold branch and repeat the procedure outlined in Step 3. Again start at the base of the branch and work outwards to the tip of the scaffold limb. Remember to focus on only the scaffold limb that you are currently pruning.

**Step 5:** Continue working your way around the tree, pruning one scaffold limb at a time. If there is more than one layer of branches, as in a tree pruned to a modified open vase shape, move up to the next layer and continue the procedure outlined in Steps 3 and 4.

Leave sufficient distance between each layer to allow for adequate light to reach the lower layer. Actual distance between layers is variable and will depend on location, exposure, tree age and size, branch density and species. Experience will help in determining what sufficient distance between layers is.

**Step 6:** When you have finished pruning each scaffold limb, one at a time, stand back and examine the tree as a whole unit. Look for excessively crowded branches, crossing branches or branches growing towards the center of the vase. Remove or redirect these branches if necessary.

## Central Leader and Modified Central Leader

Central leader and modified central leader pruning styles are used to maximize fruit production and fruit quality for all fruit trees except those in the genus *Prunus*. (This includes trees such as apples, pears, figs and pomegranate.) Central leader pruning keeps branches in the center of the tree.

Each scaffold branch and its attached branches and limbs should occupy their own space in the tree. Branches should not cross, touch, rub or be excessively crowded. Adequate spacing should be maintained between branches to allow sufficient light and air to penetrate through the tree so that fruiting wood is produced and so that insect and disease problems are reduced.

Trees should have sufficient branches remaining after pruning so that the bark of the trunk and scaffold branches are protected from strong, direct sunlight when the tree is full of leaves to prevent damage from sunburn or sunscald.

A tree pruned into a central leader shape resembles the shape of a Christmas tree. Pruned to this shape, the tree will be the tallest and will produce the greatest amount of fruit.

The modified central leader pruning style differs from the central leader by having a more rounded top. The dominant leader of the central leader tree is suppressed with drop-crotch pruning or training techniques and secondary leaders are allowed to develop. Each outer leader becomes progressively shorter as they move outward from the center of the tree. These secondary leaders divide the growing energy or dominance between several growing points and the overall effect is a lower growing tree with a more rounded shape.

The secondary leaders must be spaced along the trunk both radially and vertically to produce a tree with strong branching structure. Trees should never be topped.

Central leader shaped and modified central leader shaped trees will need to have an average of 20 to 40 percent of growth removed on a yearly basis. Good pruning practices will help to reduce the amount of growth removed each year so that 10 to 20 percent branch removal is common.

Fruit trees that are pruned to central leader or modified central leader shapes may bear fruit on fruiting spurs, as in apples and pears, on last years growth, as in mulberries and some figs or on current season growth, as in figs and pomegranates. It is extremely important to know the fruiting habits of the fruit tree

you are pruning in order to be able to prune correctly and to maximize fruit production.

## HOW-TO: CENTRAL LEADER AND MODIFIED CENTRAL LEADER

**Step 1:** Remove all suckers.

**Step 2:** Start pruning each scaffold limb one at a time, beginning with the lowest scaffold limb first. Start at the tree trunk and work your way towards the end of the branch. Prune for health, structural strength, and flower and fruit production and to thin out crowded branches. If branches are growing vertically and are crossing limbs which are growing above them or are crowding nearby branches, drop-crotch, train, or remove the limb to prevent overcrowding and crossing.

After being properly pruned, the overall appearance of the scaffold branch will often be feather-like where the branch is horizontal, with side branches and fruiting wood mainly attached to the top and sides of this branch. Small branches and fruiting spurs may be attached to the bottom of the scaffold, provided they are not too crowded. Where the branches are more vertical, side branches should be spaced along the branch in a spiraled arrangement with internode distance between branches. Adequate thinning of branches should be done to allow for air circulation and some light penetration.

**Step 3:** Move to the next scaffold branch and repeat the procedure outlined in Step 2. Again start at the base of the branch and work outwards to the tip of the scaffold limb. Remember to focus on only the scaffold limb that you are currently pruning. Continue working your way around the tree, pruning one scaffold limb at a time.

**Step 4:** After moving around the tree by working on the lowest scaffold branches, continue up to the next higher scaffold branches and again work your way around the tree pruning each branch one at a time.

**Step 5:** Repeat Steps 2 through 4 until you have finally reached the central leader of the tree. Branch height should descend progressively lower from the central growing point, downward as the branches move further out from the center.

**Step 6:** If you are pruning to a modified central leader shape, drop-crotch the highest, central leader to a lower lateral and round out the overall tree shape by drop-crotching the taller branches.

**Step 7:** Stand back and examine the entire tree. Look for any crowded or crossing branches and drop-crotch, train, or remove these branches. Balance the overall tree shape by thinning, drop-crotching or training any scraggly branches.

Following this pruning guide will help you to enjoy the fruits of your labors and of your trees for years to come, as well as keeping them stronger and healthier. For more indepth pruning guidance consider the following course offering at Southwestern College—LNT 70 – Pruning Fruiting Trees and Vines. Class: 1/16/09 – 2/28/09 (6 weeks). Days and times: Thursday nights 6:00-8:20 p.m. – and Saturday afternoon 3:30-5:30 p.m. To contact the college go to [www.swccd.edu](http://www.swccd.edu)



Central Leader

Modified Central Leader

ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF ALEX SHAIKO

Continued on page 26

# Now is the time

Timely tips to  
keep your plants  
happy throughout  
November and December

## African Violets

Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society

- Look for leaves that cup or have turned gray. You could have an insect infestation.
- Look for small blooms. Use a magnifying glass to look for pests.
- Pots should be one-third the width of the plant. Small plants may need to be potted down and larger plants may need to go into the next size of container.
- Violets should have only a single crown. Remove suckers and start them as "bonus" plants. Suckers tend to take away nourishment from the main crown.
- If you have plants with long necks it is time to operate or the plant will eventually curl over and droop to one side. Remove lower leaves and cut the neck two inches below the remaining bottom leaves. Scrape the sides lightly so that roots will form more easily. Allow the neck to "heal" for half an hour and replant. Cover the new plant with a plastic bag and keep it in a dark place with no fertilizer so it can rejuvenate before going back into the sunlight. Keep the new violet plant in the little greenhouse until new roots begin to form—about a week to ten days.
- Water your plants with warm water to avoid shock.



Violets

## Begonias

Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society

- Continue watering
- Clean out spent blooms and dead leaves.
- Add soil or mulch to keep roots covered.
- Spray for pests, insects and mildew.
- Feed lightly several times a month unless using a time-release fertilizer.

## Bonsai

Kora Dalager, San Diego Bonsai Club

- Stop fertilizing
- November brings hot Santa Ana winds - watch for spider mites - hose your junipers and pines vigorously on dry days and be mindful of temperature fluctuations.
- Clean up your deciduous trees—remove old leaves, seeds and fruit.
- Pull old pine needles.

## Bromeliad

Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

- Cut down on watering and stop fertilizing outdoor plants during the cold months.
- Continue fertilizing greenhouse plants and indoor plants year round. Use one teaspoon of a granular fertilizer 14-14-14 over the potting media of a six-inch pot. Or you can spray foliage with a water-soluble fertilizer, but only use one-half or one-third of the amount recommended on the label.
- Keep plants protected from hail damage during the rainy season. Provide overhead protection, by using shade cloth or other material that allows filtered sunlight to reach your plants.
- Cover outdoor plants with old sheets or other material during a freeze. Do not use plastic covering.
- Enjoy having your genus *Bilbergia* as it blooms now. Their graceful pendular inflorescence can last from one to two weeks.
- Remember to collect rainwater for future use. Your plants will love it, and they will greatly reward you.

## Cacti and Succulents

Joyce Buckner, The Plant Man Nursery in Old Town

- Watch the weather and be aware of nighttime temperatures. Keep exotic frost-tender plants in a dry protected area. (*Lithops*, *Adeniums*, *Pachypodiums*, small potted cacti, etc.)
- Trim trees and bushes; remove all dead foliage from awnings, roof, gutters and overhangs. This will ensure adequate sunshine—too much shade, cold or damp can cause mold, fungi and bacteria to develop.
- Make certain all potted plants have proper drainage.
- Should we actually get the rain we so badly need this winter, make certain that excess rainwater is not accumulating

anywhere. Many San Diego gardens have slow draining clay beds that may go unnoticed until we have a rare rainy winter.

- Winter growing succulents should be starting to plump up (*Dudleya*, *Aeonium*, *Senecio*, etc.). Make sure they get adequate sunlight and give them morning water if there is no rain, or during the warm Santa Ana winds.

## Camellias

Sharon Lee, San Diego Camellia Society

- Fertilize monthly (September through January) with 2-10-10 for extra large buds.
- Remove all but the largest bud where bud clusters exist. Disbudding provides fewer but larger blooms.
- Pick up blooms that fall to the ground to prevent petal blight.
- Feed with an iron supplement to grow dark green leaves.
- Water regularly. Don't let plants dry out, but if it rains heavily, cut back on supplemental watering.
- Prune out branches that might prevent buds from opening.
- Watch for aphids, mites, loopers and other insects. Treat accordingly. Note that camellias suffer from few insect problems.
- Move, re-pot or bare-root and re-pot now while camellias are beginning their dormant season (October through March). In the soil or in a pot always plant one inch higher than soil level. Camellias don't like their crowns covered. Remember, some camellias like shady spots and some like sun. Check your nursery tag or ask the nursery personnel.
- Look for Camellia sasanqua 'Yuletide' in the nurseries now. It blooms during the holidays, thus the name 'Yuletide.'

## Dahlias

Dave Tooley, San Diego Dahlia Society

- Withhold water and fertilizer to allow the plants to go dormant.
- Allow plants to dry. When brown about 12 inches from the ground, cut off the stalk. Leave tubers in the ground to harden off if there is good drainage, otherwise lift roots before the heavy rains.
- Wash clumps after digging, then let dry a few hours before storing. If dividing tubers, treat cut with soil sulfur, and store in vermiculite or other medium.
- Store out of the weather. Be sure tubers are tagged before storing.
- Get your new tuber orders ready for buying from the major growers now, as orders are shipped first-come first-serve. They usually ship in February or March.

## Ferns

Bob Halley, San Diego Fern Society

- Save rainwater for plants. Most ferns aren't growing much this time of year. Do not over water.
- Trim off dead fronds.

- Fertilize in early November then let the plants rest until spring.
- Remove and remount *Platyserium* pups.
- Sow spores.
- Look for snails, slugs, giant white flies and other pests; treat as necessary
- Protect plants when the weather dips below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

## Fruit Trees and Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Horticulture Advisor,  
UC Cooperative Extension

- Prune deciduous trees and vines after their foliage has dropped. Wait until early spring to prune evergreens.
- Spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil to kill scale, insects, spider mites and other over-wintering pests.
- Spray peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) to control leaf curl.
- Order low chill, bare root trees and vines to plant in December or January.
- Provide frost protection for young avocado, citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.
- Learn more about backyard orchards at <http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu>.

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**Nov. 10: Garden Treasures of the Pacific Northwest**  
Horticulturist **Koby Hall** presents a spectacular photo essay of several famous gardens in the Pacific Northwest at the peak of their Fall brilliance, including Butchart Gardens and Dr Sun Yat Sen Oriental gardens. Members free, non-members \$5.

**Dec. 8: Backyard Vineyards in San Diego County**  
Got wine? **Pete Anderson**, the Grape Mentor for the San Diego Amateur Winemakers Society, will provide a fascinating overview of the development of small vineyards by homeowners in our county. Members free, non-members \$5.

**Info: [sdhortsoc.org](http://sdhortsoc.org) or (760) 295-7089**

Sage

## Herbs

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Plan your winter/spring herb garden.
- Perennials for this time of year: rosemary, lavender, thyme and rue.
- Annual herbs for the vegetable and flower beds: borage, calendula, cilantro chickweed, chives and nasturtium.
- Prune to shape native sage, rosemary and lavender.
- Cut mints down to the ground and add soil amendment.
- Harvest lemongrass, chaste berries, ginkgo leaves and fennel seed.
- Remember to include coriander, marjoram, tarragon and saffron in your holiday cooking.

## Irises

### Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- If you did not fertilize after the bloom season, do it now and use a low nitrogen fertilizer like 6-20-20, or even a 10-10-10.
- Be sure to clean out all dead leaves and look for aphids at the base of the leaves. Spray with a systemic insect control spray to prevent pests from wintering over.
- Keep your iris beds free of weeds.
- It is not too late to dig and divide your clumps and replant the rhizomes.
- If you have rebloomers, you need to fertilize and water more to get them to bloom. When you fertilize, spread it around the clump and try to avoid putting directly on rhizomes.

## Native Plants

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Prepare the native landscape for winter and spring.
- Prune and deadhead the sages and the buckwheat. Do not prune toyon, it really shows off in November and December.
- Dig new holes for plantings; water several times before planting. Little or no soil amendments should be used. The next few months are the best for establishing native plants.
- Sow wildflower seeds: California poppy, Chinese houses, mountain garland, owl's cover and farewell to spring.
- It is wonderful to sow or plant just before a big storm or between storms.

## Orchids

### Christopher Croom, San Diego County Orchid Society

- Look for aphids and other pests on spikes of the Mexican Laelia you grow outside.
- Water plants before noon and protect outdoor orchids from evening moisture. Do not overwater outdoor plants. They tend to rot easily this time of year.
- Water and fertilize less in the winter than during the summer. However, developing spikes do appreciate some fertilizer and extra water.
- Train developing spikes on cymbidiums.
- Acclimate cool-growing orchids to your outdoor growing area.

## Pelargoniums

### Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Start a pruning program. To get fuller plants and more blooms in the spring, start now by cutting back one-third of the stems about two-thirds of their length. Tip pinch the rest of the stems. Cut back one-half of the remaining stems in 30 days. If the rest of the stems have budded out heavily in new growth, you may want to cut them back now, too. If not wait another 30 days and cut them back as well.

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- Start new plants from cuttings. Put the end of stem cuttings in pots or well-draining trays of damp perlite. Space cuttings three inches apart in trays or place uniformly in pots and water when dry. Do not fertilize for the first 30 days.
- Clean plants by removing dead, damaged or older leaves. Watch for geranium rust in high humidity areas and treat appropriately.
- Although less water is needed in cooler months, be careful not to let plants get too dry. If your plants are in pots remember that the foliage will cause rain to run off outside of the pot. So even if the weather is damp, it is important to maintain your water cycle. Avoid getting the foliage wet.
- Continue feeding with a good commercial fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the label's recommended strength. Apply at two-week intervals.
- Budworms continue at this time of year. Use a good systemic insecticide for best results. Follow manufacturers' dosage recommendations and apply at 30-day intervals.
- Protect plants from heavy weather. Move them under eaves, trees or temporary shelters during heavy rains.

## Plumerias

Frank Zotter, Southern California Plumeria Society

- Prepare plants for winter dormancy.
- Feed well with high phosphorous fertilizer like 10-60-10.
- Remove dead flowers and leaves.
- Place next to a building or under a covered patio to protect from wet and cold. Cover soil on large pots with mulch.
- Bring plants inside in frost areas.
- Once leaves are dormant, hold back all water and fertilizer.

## Roses

Al Heck, San Diego Rose Society

- Deep-dig around individual bushes and incorporate organic amendments before the fall rains. Remove old tree and shrub roots. They rob your roses of water and nutrients.
- Reduce watering but do not allow bushes to become too dry if fall rains are light.
- Remove non-producing bushes. Prepare new planting holes by



adding amends and superphosphate to soil to give bare-root roses a good start.

- Prune floribundas in late December but wait to prune hybrid teas until the buds begin to swell in January or early February. Consult rosarians in your area for the best date.
- Clean up rose beds and use a dormant spray once before pruning and again after pruning before buds leaf out.
- Double-check your equipment before pruning. Don't forget gloves and kneepads.

## Vegetables

Vincent Lazaneo, Horticulture Advisor,  
UC Cooperative Extension

- Remove and compost warm-season vegetables to prevent pests and diseases from over-wintering on them.
- Continue planting cool-season vegetables that will not be subject to frost injury.
- Plant seeds of short-day onions (Grano, Granex, or Chrystal Wax), and garlic cloves in November for bulbs next summer.
- Plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus and rhubarb. Avoid crown rot of rhubarb, plant crowns in containers filled with porous potting soil and transplant into a garden where drainage is good after several leaves have developed.
- Learn more about vegetable gardening at <http://vric.ucdavis.edu>.



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## Fruiting Habits of Trees

Peach and nectarine trees produce flowers and fruit on last year's growth, one-year-old wood. This fruiting wood is replaced each year. An average of 40 to 60 percent of the branches is removed each season. Fruiting wood is easily identified. Branches have smooth, shiny, green or green and brown bark. Branches have well developed buds but no side branches. Branches are frequently pulled downward by the weight of the fruit and develop into 'hangers,' which are beneficial to picking the fruit.

Plum and apricot trees produce flowers and fruit on fruiting spurs. Fruiting spurs are long lived on plums (up to ten years) but are short lived on apricots (three-five years).

Fruiting spurs develop on branches that are two-years old and older. These older branches have brown, rough bark and smaller side branches. The side branches may be vegetative, which will produce leaves and more branches, or they may be fruiting spurs, which will produce flowers and fruit. Vegetative branches will produce fruiting spurs after they become two years old and older.

Fruiting spurs can be identified as smaller branches with very short spacing between the buds — internode spacing (average one-quarter inch). Vegetative branches are usually larger and more vigorous, with more distance between the buds (usually one-half to three-fourth inch or more). As fruiting spurs age and get larger they may resemble "thorns" or become club-like in appearance. Spurs should be thinned as trees age to prevent excessive fruit development, which results in smaller fruit and may cause branches to break. Apricot spurs usually die off after three to five years and need to be replaced. Prune to remove about one-third to one-fifth of the older fruiting spurs each year after the fourth to sixth year.

### FRUITING HABITS OF COMMON FRUITS AND NUTS

This chart shows the position on the branch where fruit will be borne and the type and age of wood that bears fruit

#### Current-Season's Shoots

Fig — second crop  
Persimmon  
Quince  
Walnut

#### Previous-Season's Spurs and Shoots

Apple — minor  
Cherry, sour  
Pear — minor  
Pomegranate

#### Previous-Season's Shoots

Fig — first crop  
Filbert  
Nectarplum  
Nectarine  
Olive  
Peach  
Pistachio  
Quince

#### Long-lived Spurs

Almond  
Apple  
Apricot — short-lived spur  
Aprium  
Cherry, sour  
Cherry, sweet  
Pear  
Pecan  
Plum, European  
Plum, Japanese  
Plumcot  
Pluot  
Pomegranate

Pear tree in early fruit stage

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## *Experience the Rose Parade!*

**Now's your chance to inspect the world famous Rose Parade floats up close and personal!** On January 2, 2009, SDFA will sponsor a bus trip to view the New Year's floats in Pasadena. This is a great opportunity to view the floats firsthand; you'll be close enough to smell the flowers. Watch the parade on television on the first and then be standing there admiring the details of the design and workmanship that goes into making these beautiful floats the very next day.

Comfortable shoes are recommended, as a fair amount of walking will be involved. Refreshments will be provided on the bus; lunch is up to you, though locations will be recommended.

The bus will pick up near Old Town and in North County. Time and exact location for pick up and return will be available when we receive your reservation. We have had many requests for this tour and expect the trip to fill up quickly, so get your RSVP in today and join us for what promises to be a delightful day!

**Price: \$45 for SDFA members, \$50 for non-members. Mail your check to the San Diego Floral Association office at 1650 El Prado, Room 105, San Diego, CA, 92101.**



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# SDFA Calendar

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for November and December

## November Events

### NOVEMBER 3

**PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FLORAL DESIGN FORUM**  
San Diego stylish and innovative designer Rene' Van Rems, AIFD speaks.  
When: 12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.  
Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe Sr., Carlsbad, CA  
More information: 760-749-4976 75, [www.geocities.com/pgdargardenclubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgdargardenclubs)

### NOVEMBER 6

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING**  
The SDCOS is holding two meetings: a general meeting and a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!  
When: Novice Class, 6:30 p.m.; General Meeting, 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting), Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More information: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

### NOVEMBER 7

**VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING**  
The Vista Garden Club Monthly Meeting begins at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m. November program is the Scholarship luncheon.  
When: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.  
Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, CA  
More information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)

### NOVEMBER 7

**BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW \*\*TWO DAY EVENT\*\***  
"Once Upon A Time" is the theme for the BVGC Annual Standard Flower Show. Come and enjoy the free show—our gift to the community.  
When: Entries hours—Thurs, Nov. 6, 2:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.;  
Fri, Nov. 7, 7:30 a.m.–9:45 p.m.; Show Hours—Fri, Nov. 7, 2:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.;  
Sat, Nov. 8, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Reception and Awards—Fri, Nov. 7 - 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.  
Where: Bonita Museum & Cultural Center & Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 9202  
More information: Co-Show Chairman Marion Beercoft, 619-479-7265;  
Horticulture Chair Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585; President Leslie Schroeder, 619-216-8863

### NOVEMBER 8

**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER WEEDING/PLANTING EVENT**  
Join CNPS members and other volunteers at the newly restored Old Town State Park Native Plant Garden to help with weeding and planting annuals and bulbs.  
When: 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.  
Where: Old Town State Park Native Plant Garden. Across Congress Street from trolley/train/bus depot next to the parking lot.  
More Information: [info@cnpsd.org](mailto:info@cnpsd.org)

### SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING

Learn more about these water-saving plants at the SDCSS's monthly meeting.  
When: 1:00 p.m.  
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More information: [www.sdcss.com](http://www.sdcss.com)

### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

Join these bromeliad-lovers for their monthly meeting.  
When: 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More Information: [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

### NOVEMBER 9

**SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING**  
The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.  
When: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More Information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

### NOVEMBER 10

**SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING**  
Horticulturist Koby Hall will present a spectacular photo essay, "An Autumnal Phoenix In All Her Glory," from several gardens in the Pacific Northwest at the peak of their fall brilliance. Program followed by plant forum. Admission for members is free; non-members \$5.  
When: 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.  
Where: Surfside room, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, CA  
More information: 760-295-7089, [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

### NOVEMBER 11

**DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB**  
Monthly meetings are designed to educate by providing interesting and diversified programs. November program is "Herbs and Wreaths."  
When: 12:00 p.m.  
Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center, CA.  
More information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society Meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!  
When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.  
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More information: Brenda Archer 619-447-8243, [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

### NOVEMBER 12

**BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**  
Program: Richard Zasqueta "Make Every Drop Count." Learn how to save water from the inside to the outside.  
When: 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita RD, Bonita, CA  
More Information: Darlene Montgomery 619-267-1585, [dmontg@live.com](mailto:dmontg@live.com)

### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Arborist/Horticultural Consultant Kurt Peacock presents "Water Wise Trees, Plants & Flowers;" how to have trees, plants and flowers and still conserve water.  
When: 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA  
More Information: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

### RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

Come join the Ramona Garden Club for refreshments, door prize, plant swapping, plant sales and program.  
When: 12:00 p.m.  
Where: Ramona Women's Club, 524 Main Street, Ramona, CA  
More information: [www.ramonaagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonaagardenclub.com)

### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

This General Meeting will feature a Mini Flower Show. A special drawing is held among attending members. All first-time guests are welcomed with a free four-inch potted epi—sign in to be eligible.  
When: 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
More information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

### NOVEMBER 15

**SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB**  
A Day in the Country- Visits to Nurseries.  
When: 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Malcolm X Library, Euclid and Market  
More Information: [secretary@sandiegogardenclub.org](mailto:secretary@sandiegogardenclub.org)  
[www.sandiegogardenclub.org](http://www.sandiegogardenclub.org)

## NOVEMBER 17

### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

Visitors are always welcome to the monthly meetings. Tom Carruth of Weeks Roses! Tom Carruth of Weeks Roses will be giving us a preview of new roses to come. Some of our favorite roses have been hybridized by Tom, including many AARS winners.

When: mini rose show 6:00 p.m.; program 6:30 p.m.; Pot Luck Dinner 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

## NOVEMBER 18

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Come join the California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter at 6:30 p.m. for a mixer and sales table, then stay for 7:30 meeting. Free to the public.

When: 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

### LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join them for their monthly meeting.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, CA

More information: President Fran Sheibein, 858-450-1769

### RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB

Join this group for their monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Contact for Meeting Location

More information: Carol Wells, 619-749-8325

## NOVEMBER 19

### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Monthly meetings are free to members. While guests are welcome, there is an admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackson St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

### CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Monthly meeting. Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

### SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING

Join this club for their monthly meeting.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President Dean Gurney, 760-942-1919

## NOVEMBER 20

### BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join this garden club for their monthly meeting.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library Community Room, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego

More information: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)

### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdfern.com](http://www.sdfern.com)

### VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING

Floral Design Program: Beverly Ireland, AIFD presents, "It's a Party." The meeting is open to guests.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 1802 Amalfi St., La Jolla, CA

More information: Ann Craig, 858-454-4117, [www.villagegardenclubofajolla.com](http://www.villagegardenclubofajolla.com)

## NOVEMBER 25

### BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB

Monthly meetings give you a wealth of information on organic gardening. Come and enjoy the exceptional programs.

When: Social 6:30 p.m.; Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Where: Bonita Museum, 4355 Bonita Rd, Bonita, CA

More Information: Bernadette Mingus, 619-200-5073,

[bernadettekingus@yahoo.com](mailto:bernadettekingus@yahoo.com)

### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Programs, speakers, workshops, study groups and tours cover a variety of garden related topics, and give members the opportunity to expand their knowledge and interests.

When: Social 12:30 p.m.; Meeting 1:00 p.m.

Where: Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook, CA

More Information: [www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub](http://www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub)

## NOVEMBER 26

### IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 19

Join this group to learn more about Ikebana.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: 858-673-3635, [hiropan8@san.rr.com](mailto:hiropan8@san.rr.com)

## NOVEMBER 29

### SAN DIEGO EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY

When: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: G. Plaisted, 6356 Delbarton St., San Diego, CA

### SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING

Join this group for their monthly meeting

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

# December Events

## DECEMBER 1

### PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FLORAL DESIGN FORUM

Holiday Flower Show: Palomar District Designers entering designs from NGS Flower Show Handbook.

When: 12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe Sr., Carlsbad, CA

More information: 760-749-4976, [www.geocities.com/pgdcardenclubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgdcardenclubs)

## DECEMBER 4

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The SDCOS is holding two meetings: a general meeting and a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!

When: Novice Class, 6:30 p.m.; General Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting) Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sdcorchids.com](http://www.sdcorchids.com)

## DECEMBER 5

### DECEMBER NIGHTS & SDEA 36TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

\*\*TWO DAY EVENT\*\*

Come enjoy the annual December Nights festival in Balboa Park, and be sure to stop by and visit the SDEA's Annual Christmas Tree Display. This year's theme is "Festival of Trees—Decorating with Nature's Gifts;" see how local garden clubs, plant societies, florists and nurseries decorate trees using natural accents.

When: December 5, 5:00 p.m.–10 p.m.; December 6, 3:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

Where: December Nights, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA; SDEA Event, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: SDEA Floral Office at 619-232-5762;

[www.balboapark.org/decebernights](http://www.balboapark.org/decebernights)

### VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Vista Garden Club Monthly Meeting begins at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m.

When: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, CA

More information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)



## DECEMBER 8

### SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING.

Program: Pete Anderson presents Backyard Vineyards in San Diego County. Everyone welcome. Admission for members is free; non-members \$5.

When: 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Surfside room, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, CA

More information: 760-295-7089, [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

## DECEMBER 9

### DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB

Monthly meetings are designed to educate by providing interesting and diversified programs. December features their Christmas Luncheon; please contact for more details.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: Pauma Valley Country Club, 15835 Pauma Valley Drive, Pauma Valley, CA

More information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society Meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: Brenda Archer, 619-447-8243, [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

## DECEMBER 10

### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Program: Christmas brunch and poinsettia Bingo. Please contact for more details.

When: Hospitality, 9:30 a.m.; Brunch, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Bonita Golf Course, 5510 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA

More Information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, [duontg@live.com](mailto:duontg@live.com)

### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Annual Tea and Holiday Bazaar. This event is open to the public.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

### RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

Come join the Ramona Garden Club for refreshments, door prize, plant swapping, plant sales and program.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: Ramona Women's Club, 524 Main Street, Ramona, CA

More information: [www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com)

### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

This General Meeting will feature a Mini Flower Show. A special drawing is held among attending members. All first-time guests are welcomed with a free four-inch potted epi—sign in to be eligible.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

## DECEMBER 11

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS' GARDEN OF LIGHTS

Please come see the annual Garden of Lights presentation at the Quail Botanical Gardens. Over 90,000 sparkling lights, many LED, illuminating the Gardens for a magical holiday experience. Numerous activities include horse-drawn-wagon rides, holiday crafts, visits with Santa, live music and more. Special Holiday Tales and Tunes for children ages two to six will be offered on three evenings of Garden of Lights, so contact for more details. Admission: Members, Seniors, Military & Students \$6; non-members \$10. Children 3–12 \$3. (There will be additional fees for some activities.)

When: December 11-23, 5:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.; December 26-30, 5:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

## DECEMBER 12

### SOUTH BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN HOLIDAY LIGHTS \*\*TWO DAY EVENT\*\*

Walk through the newly established South Bay Botanic Garden at Southwestern College to get in a holiday mood. Ten community groups are lighting up the garden and guests can walk through while listening to the College Choral singing holiday songs and sipping hot chocolate. Cost is \$1 per person with a maximum of \$3 per family. Parking is free.

When: Please contact for more details

Where: Southwestern Community College, Botanical Gardens, 906 Otay Lake Rd, Chula Vista, CA

More information: 619-482-6555, [sbbg@swccd.edu](mailto:sbbg@swccd.edu)

## DECEMBER 13

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER WEEDING/PLANTING PARTY

Join CNPS members and other volunteers at the newly restored Old Town State Park Native Plant Garden to help with weeding and planting annuals and bulbs.

When: 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: Old Town State Park Native Plant Garden. Across Congress Street from trolley/train/bus depot next to the parking lot.

More Information: [info@cnpsd.org](mailto:info@cnpsd.org)

### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

Join these bromeliad-lovers for their monthly meeting.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

## DECEMBER 14

### SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING

The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.

When: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

## DECEMBER 15

### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY HOLIDAY BASH

Don't miss this holiday mixer. Mingle without an agenda and have a great time. There is even a gift exchange game—you won't want to miss it. All San Diego Rose Society members and guests are invited.

When: Contact for more details

Where: Contact for more details

More Information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

## DECEMBER 16

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Come join the California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter at 6:30 p.m. for a mixer and sales table, then stay for 7:30 meeting. Free to the public.

When: 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

### LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join this group for their monthly meeting.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 5171 Crystal Drive La Jolla, CA

More information: President Fran Shelbein, 858-0450-1769

### RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join this club for their monthly meeting

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Please contact for more details

More information: Carol Wells, 619-749-8325

## DECEMBER 17

### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Monthly meetings are free to members. While guests are welcome, there is an admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackson St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

### CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Monthly meeting. Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

### SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING

Join this club for their monthly meeting.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President Dean Gurney, 760-942-1919

## DECEMBER 18

### BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join this club for their monthly meeting.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library Community Room, 17110

Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)

### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdforn.com](http://www.sdforn.com)

## DECEMBER 23

### SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING

Please contact for more details about this monthly meeting.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President, David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

# Gardening Classes

### WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS

Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

### WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS

Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway, CA

More Information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN CLASSES

The Water Conservation Garden provides a number of entertaining, information-packed courses covering the most topical gardening topics and presented by skilled and knowledgeable experts. Please contact the Water Conservation Garden for program details and any applicable fees.

When: Contact for program-specific times.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614 x10

# Walks, Tours & Garden Events

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS TOUR

Come and meet up at the Visitor's Center for a weekly tour of the Quail Botanical Gardens. No reservations required. Free with admission.

When: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More Information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Ongoing—contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More Information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events for adults and families. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More Information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR

Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.

When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: <http://thegarden.org>

### CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK

Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free.

When: 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., first Sunday of the month

Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

### BUENA CREEK GARDENS FREE GARDEN TOUR

Join Steve Brigham for this free, monthly garden tour.

When: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., second Saturday of each month

Where: Buena Creek Gardens, 418 Buena Creek Rd. San Marcos, CA

More Information: [www.buenacreekgardens.com](http://www.buenacreekgardens.com)

### SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.

When: 10:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday;

12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m., Sunday

Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdchm.org/garden](http://www.sdchm.org/garden)

# Balboa Park Events

### SAN DIEGO ZOO

Visit the world famous San Diego Zoo for Plant Days and Orchid Odyssey.

When: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., third Friday of each month

Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sandiegozoo.com](http://www.sandiegozoo.com)

### SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Enhance your well-being with a visit to this Japanese-style garden. There is a \$4 fee for adults, \$2.50 fee for Seniors (55+), children and military with I.D.

When: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday

Where: San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

### BALBOA PARK OFFSHOOT TOURS

Learn about Balboa Park's plants as volunteer horticulturists lead visitors on free, one-hour themed walks. (Inclement weather and low-turnout cancels the tour.)

When: 10:00 a.m., every Saturday starting January 12

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

### BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Join volunteer-guides on this free, history-oriented walk through Balboa Park.

When: 1:00 p.m., every Tuesday

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

### SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER WALKS

Join trained volunteer guides on a local canyon walks. There is a \$2 fee.

When: Times vary; check website for specific event details

Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details

More Information: [www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers](http://www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers)

Continued on page 35



# SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907

1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684 619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

*Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California*

**Mission Statement: To Promote The Knowledge And Appreciation  
Of Horticulture And Floriculture In The San Diego Region.**

## GENERAL MEETINGS

2008

February 19

April 15

June 17

October 21

Casa del Prado, Room 101  
Balboa Park, San Diego

## OFFICERS

**President**

Nancy Carter

**First Vice President**

Connie Brown

**Second Vice President**

Sandra Graff

**Treasurer**

Constance Whitney

**Recording Secretary**

Kathy Taylor de Murillo

**Corresponding Secretary**

Lucy Kramer

**Historian**

Thea Gums

**Parliamentarian**

Barbara Forrest

**DIRECTORS**

**Term 2006-2009**

Lynne Batchelor

Laura Starr

Kay Harry

**Term 2007-2010**

Joanne Dossett

Michelle Kownacki

Linda Lindgren

**Term 2008-2011**

Sandra Dysart

Cheryl Gaidmore

Amy R. Wood

**Arrangers Guild Chair**

Suzanne Michel

## AFFILIATES:

### CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.

Exec. Director: Maureen Austin  
P. O. Box 532  
Alpine, CA 91903-0532  
619-445-8352  
[www.chirp.org](http://www.chirp.org)

### CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO

Pres: Kathy Puplava  
P. O. Box 9424  
San Diego, CA 92169-0424  
858-576-3828  
[www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org](http://www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org)

### FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN

P. O. Box 742  
Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0742  
949-499-5518  
[marshab@gte.net](mailto:marshab@gte.net)

### Friends of Marston Garden

Pres. Bobbie Bagel  
San Diego Historical Society  
1649 El Prado SD. 82101  
619-232-6203  
[www.marstonhouse.org](http://www.marstonhouse.org)  
[Friendsofmarstonhouse.org](http://Friendsofmarstonhouse.org)

### JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN BALBOA PARK

Contact: Luanne Lao  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
619-232-2721  
[www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

### PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Director: Jerry Thirloway  
1105 Santa Madera Ct.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-755-3284  
[www.californiagardenclubs.org](http://www.californiagardenclubs.org)

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS

**FOUNDATION, INC.**  
Executive Director: Julian Duval  
P. O. Box 230005  
Encinitas, CA 92023-0005  
760-436-3036  
[info@qbgardens.org](mailto:info@qbgardens.org)  
[www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION

President: Ed Hamilton  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
619-234-8901  
[www.sdbgof.org](http://www.sdbgof.org)

### SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Executive Director:  
Alexander Chuang  
404 Third Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92101-6803  
619-338-9888  
[www.sdchm.org](http://www.sdchm.org)

### SAN DIEGO ZOO

Horticulture Department  
P. O. Box 120551  
San Diego, CA 92112-0551  
619-231-1515 Ext. 4298  
[www.sandiegozoo.org](http://www.sandiegozoo.org)

### SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL

Chair: Sandi Lord  
P. O. Box 876  
Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876  
760-727-7614  
Meets first Wednesday  
(Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May)  
at 10:30 a.m., North County Fair,  
Escondido, Community Room

### TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY

Contact: Takashi Ijichi  
1455 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
San Diego, CA 92102-2625  
619-255-2501  
[takasumi-e@email.com](mailto:takasumi-e@email.com)  
Meets first Sunday (Feb., Mar.,  
Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.) from 9:00  
am to 11:00 a.m., Casa del Prado

### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN

Librarian: Joan Endres  
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West,  
El Cajon  
CA 92019-4317  
619-660-0614  
[info@thegarden.org](mailto:info@thegarden.org)  
[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

### CLASSIC GARDENS

P. O. Box 2711  
La Jolla, CA 92038-2711  
858-459-0316

### MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.

3089C Clairemont Drive #296  
San Diego, CA 92117-6802  
619-296-9687

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.  
Del Mar, CA 92014-2216  
[www.sdfair.com](http://www.sdfair.com)

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Contact: Vickie V. Driver  
4677 Overland Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92123-1233  
858-522-6760  
[www.sdewa.org](http://www.sdewa.org)

### JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST

1928 Madison Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92116-2722  
619-298-7641

## GARDEN CLUBS:

### ALPINE GARDEN CLUB

President: Carlette Anderson  
2451 Night Star Ct.  
Alpine, CA 91901-1449  
619-445-5716  
Meets first Friday at 10:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members

### BERNARDO GARDENERS

President: Adele Kelly  
P. O. Box 27179  
San Diego, CA 92198-1179  
858-673-8728  
[www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)  
Meets third Thursday at 1:30 p.m.  
Rancho Bernardo Library

### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

President: Lynne Batchelor  
16048 Caminito Aire Puro  
San Diego, CA 92128-3557  
858-451-6764  
Meets second Wednesday at  
9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

### BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

President: Pat Cooley  
950 Olive Ave.  
Coronado, CA 92118-2710  
619-437-8227  
Meets fourth Monday at 9:30 a.m.  
Winn Room, Coronado  
Public Library

### CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB

President: Ellen McGrath-Thorp  
Publicity: Mary Hassing  
P. O. Box 626, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
619-494-7774  
[www.carlsbadgardenclub.com](http://www.carlsbadgardenclub.com)

### CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

President: Marilyn Saleny  
P. O. Box 57  
Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016  
619-421-6072  
Meets third Thursday at 11:45 a.m.  
Norman Park Senior Center

### CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

President: Nancy Griffith  
P. O. Box 180188  
Coronado, CA 92118-0188  
619-435-8079

### CROWN GARDEN CLUB

President: Jeanne Bowers  
P. O. Box 180476  
Coronado, CA 92178-0476  
619-435-5474  
Meets fourth Thursday at 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library

### DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB

President: Evelyn Kent  
13224 Blueberry Hill Ln.  
Valley Center, CA 92082-0123  
760-749-5078  
[www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)  
Meets second Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Community Hall

### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB

President: Judy Farnan  
P. O. Box 1702  
Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702  
760-451-0792  
Meets third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., FPU D. Blg.  
on Mission Rd.  
Meets last Thursday at 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian Church on Stage Coach

### FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB

FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB  
Chair: Louisa Pillsbury  
2140 Paseo Dorado #2  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
858-551-4556  
Meets second Monday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB

President: Fran Sheinbein  
5171 Crystal Dr., La Jolla, CA 92037-7951  
858-488-5618  
[sey59@shcglobal.net](mailto:sey59@shcglobal.net)  
Meets third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., L.J. Lutheran Church

### LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

President: Vernon Blumh  
710 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. G118  
Escondido, CA 92025  
760-745-4008  
[vblumh@cox.net](mailto:vblumh@cox.net)  
Meets fourth Monday at 2:00 p.m., Rancho Bernardo Library, Second Floor

### LAS JARDINERAS

Meets third Monday at 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of Members

### MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE

Co-President: Felicia Moscinski  
809 Olive Ave., #40  
Vista, CA 92083-3373  
760-726-4047

Co-President: Don Nelson  
952 Park Hill Drive  
Escondido, CA 92025-4853

760-630-3580  
[donnellson12@shcglobal.net](mailto:donnellson12@shcglobal.net)

Meets third Saturday  
(Sept.-June only) at 12:45 p.m.  
MiraCosta Community College, Student Center Bldg.  
(upstairs)

### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB

President: Meredith French  
3145 Brant Street  
San Diego, CA 92123-5502  
619-260-1588  
[www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB

President: Julie Hasl  
824 Moana Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92106  
619-564-7036  
[www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)  
Meets second Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., Portuguese Hall,  
2818 Avenida de Portugal,  
San Diego, CA

### POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Co-President: Rosemary Anderson  
14908 Satanas St.  
San Diego, CA 92129-1529  
858-672-0459

Co-President: Lucille Rosicky  
14809 Priscilla St., San Diego,  
CA 92129-1524  
858-672-6225  
<http://home.sanrr.com/pvgc>  
Meets second Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion

### RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

President: Debbie Gomez  
P. O. Box 1412  
Ramona, CA 92065  
760-788-6709  
[www.ramona-gardenclub.org](http://www.ramona-gardenclub.org)  
Meets second Wednesday at 12:00 p.m., Ramona Women's Club

### RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB

President: Carol Wells  
1818 Sonnets Dr.  
El Cajon, CA 92019  
619-749-8325  
Meets third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

### RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB

President: Hal Sexton  
P. O. Box 483, Rancho Santa Fe,  
CA 92067-0483  
858-756-1554  
[www.rsf-gardenclub.org](http://www.rsf-gardenclub.org)

### SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB

President: Marj Myers  
9241 Galston Dr.  
Santee, CA 92071-1510  
619-448-3613  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB

Pres. Taylor Murphy  
P.O. Box 152611  
San Diego, CA 92195  
619-269-6184  
[www.sandiegogardenclub.org](http://www.sandiegogardenclub.org)

### SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

President: Susi Torre-Bueno  
P. O. Box 231869  
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869  
760-295-7089  
Meets second Monday  
(except June) at 6:30 p.m.  
Surfside Race Place, Del Mar,  
Fairgrounds

### SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB

President: Geri Thirloway  
1105 Santa Madera Ct.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-755-3284  
[sandieguito-gardenclub.org](http://sandieguito-gardenclub.org)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

### VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA

President: Ann Craig  
1802 Amalfi St.  
La Jolla, CA 92037-3803  
858-454-4117 [www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com](http://www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com)  
Meets fourth Thursday at 10:00 a.m.  
Torrey Pines Christian Church

### VISTA GARDEN CLUB

President: Barbara Weiler  
2920 Harris Dr.  
Vista, CA 92084-1418  
760-630-0383  
[www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)  
Meets first Friday at 12:00 p.m., Vista Senior Center

## IKEBANA SCHOOLS:

### ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

President: Haruko Crawford  
10411 San Carlos Dr.  
Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034  
619-660-2046

### IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119

President: Hiroko Fukuhara  
c/o S.D. Botanical Garden Foundation  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
858-673-3635  
[hiropan8@sanrr.com](mailto:hiropan8@sanrr.com)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado,  
Balboa Park

### IKEBANA CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO

President: Mrs. Charles Oehler  
2822 Walker Dr., San Diego,  
CA 92123-3056  
858-278-5689

### OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA LA JOLLA CHAPTER

P. O. Box 195  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-672-7850  
Meets second Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library

### OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

President: Jackie Zhang  
6435 Muirlands Dr.  
La Jolla, CA 92037-6310  
858-454-4793

### SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Director: Hiroko Szechinski  
10830 Montego Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92124-1421  
858-571-6137

### SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA

Master Instructor:  
Sumiko Lahey  
2829 Flax Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92154-2160  
619-429-6198

## PLANT SOCIETIES:

### AFRICAN VIOLET CARLSBAD AFROIAN VIOLET SOCIETY

President: Patty Regan  
2000 S. Melrose Dr., #119  
Vista, CA 92081  
760-295-0484  
Meets fourth Monday at 10:30 a.m., Vista Library  
700 Eucalyptus Ave.

### BEGONIA ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

President: Doris Smith  
4505 Long Branch Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92107-2333  
619-222-1294  
Meets second Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### MABEL CARWIN BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

President: Denise Knobloch  
465 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue #3  
Chula Vista, CA 91910  
619-409-4997  
Meets second Sunday  
(except May & Aug.) at 1:30 p.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

### MARGARET LEE BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

President: Michael Ludwig  
6040 Upland St.  
San Diego, CA 92114-1933  
619-262-7535  
Meets last Saturday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### BONSAI HON NON BO ASSOCIATION

President: Brenda Storey  
9976 Dauntless St.  
San Diego, CA 92126-5514  
858-689-0957  
Meets first Sunday (every other month, begin Feb.) at 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
**SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.**  
P. O. Box 40037  
San Diego, CA 92164-0037  
619-699-8776  
Meets second Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 a.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### BROMELIAD BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK

President: Joann Dossett  
2871 Brant St.  
San Diego, CA 92103-6119  
619-299-4115  
[jdoss12345@aol.com](mailto:jdoss12345@aol.com)  
Meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY

President: Nancy Groves  
P. O. Box 83996  
San Diego, CA 92138-3966  
858-453-6486 (weekends only)  
[http://bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)  
Meets second Saturday at 10:00 a.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### CACTUS & SUCCULENT PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

President: Vicki Broughton  
P. O. Box 840  
Escondido, CA 92033  
760-741-7553  
Meets fourth Saturday at 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Senior Center in Escondido

### SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

President: Mark Fryer  
P. O. Box 33181  
San Diego, CA 92163-3181  
619-795-1020  
Meets second Saturday at 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### CAMELLIA SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Dean Gurney  
467 Sulvia St.  
Encinitas, CA 92024  
760-942-1919  
Meets third Wednesday  
(Nov.-Apr. only) at 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### DAHLIA SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

President: David J. Tooley  
11375 Nawa Way  
San Diego, CA 92129-1116  
858-672-2593  
[djsj21643@aol.com](mailto:djsj21643@aol.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS) SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

Contact: Betsy Hamblin  
851 Opal St.  
San Diego, CA 92109-1780  
858-483-5584  
Meets first Saturday (Sept.-May) at  
10:00 a.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

## EPIPHYLLUM SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

President: Mildred V. Mikas  
P.O. Box 126127  
San Diego, CA 92112-6127  
858-485-5414  
[www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)  
Meets second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## FERN SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY

President: Kathie Russell  
1418 Park Row  
La Jolla, CA 92037-3710  
619-464-2609  
Meets third Thursday at 7:30 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## FRUIT CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

Chair: David Silverstein  
4722 Coronado Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92107-3543  
Meets fourth Thursday  
(except Nov. and Dec. when meets on  
third Thursday) at 7:00 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## GERANIUM SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY

President: Brenda Archer  
6404 Zena Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92115-7026  
619-447-8243  
[www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)  
Meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**HERB**  
**THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB**  
Co-Presidents: Judy Dunning &  
Cindi Lohry  
619-579-0222  
Meets first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## IRIS SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY

President: Edith Schade  
760-788-1376  
Meets second Sunday at 1:00 p.m.  
Please call for newsletter and meeting  
location

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

President: Eileen Fiumara  
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119  
818-986-4188  
Meets first Thursday at 7:30 p.m.,  
Canoga Park Women's Club, 7401  
Jordan, Canoga Park, CA

## NATIVE PLANTS CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Carolyn Martus  
P.O. Box 121390  
San Diego, CA 92112-1390  
760-434-5033  
<http://incpnssd.org>  
Meets third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**LAKE HODGES NATIVE  
PLANT CLUB**  
President: Yolanda Fleet  
3045 Felicia Rd.  
Escondido, CA 92029-6725  
760-745-1219  
<http://lhnpcc.org>  
Meets fourth Monday at 2:00 p.m.,  
Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd Floor

**ORCHID**  
**SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY  
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**  
President: Phyllis Prestia  
3849 Via Del Rancho  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
760-732-0055  
Meets third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.,  
Carlsbad Women's Club

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

President: David Brown  
4029 Georgia Street  
San Diego, CA 92103  
619-294-5925  
[posiedon\\_djb@juno.com](mailto:posiedon_djb@juno.com)  
Meets first Tuesday 7:30 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**ORGANIC  
BONITA ORGANIC  
GARDEN CLUB**  
President: Jane Campbell  
4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA  
619-841-8448  
[kreephyhollow@gmail.com](mailto:kreephyhollow@gmail.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

## PLUMERIA SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY

President: Roland Dubuc  
760-731-6188  
[www.southerncaliforniaplumeriasociety.com](http://www.southerncaliforniaplumeriasociety.com)  
[lbinternt@aol.com](mailto:lbinternt@aol.com)  
Meets second Sunday 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
in Feb. March, May, June, July, Aug.  
War Memorial Bldg. 3325 Zoo Drive

**ROSE**  
**EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY**  
President: Kristi Sutherland  
2007 Muira Lane  
El Cajon, CA 92109  
619-443-4795  
Meets first Sunday  
(Except Jul and Aug.) at 2:00 p.m.,  
Gardens of Members

**SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY**  
President: Ruth Tiffany  
6705 Maury Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92119-2020  
619-462-5753  
Meets third Monday  
(Mar.-Jun., Sept.-Dec.) at 7:30 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado  
Meets fourth Monday (Jan. and Feb.) at  
7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## TREES PEOPLE FOR TREES

Pat Stevenson  
P.O. Box 120505  
San Diego, CA 92112-0505  
619-222-8733  
[adoglover1@juno.com](mailto:adoglover1@juno.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.,  
743 Imperial Ave.

## WATER GARDEN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY

President: Ed Simpson  
1302 Avocado Rd.  
Oceanside, CA 92054-5702  
760-436-3704  
[dc@pondplants.com](mailto:dc@pondplants.com)  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarden>  
Meets third Sunday (Apr.-Oct.)

Send changes to Affiliates Editor, *California Garden*,  
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Call 619-232-5762  
Email: [membership@sdfloreal.org](mailto:membership@sdfloreal.org)  
January/February issue: November 10, 2008.  
Each affiliate group is entitled to a business-cardized ad at  
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files preferred).

Calendar continued from page 32

## In Season

Here are some items that you may find being sold from the stalls at your local Farmers' Market in November and December.  
(For more information on San Diego County Certified Farmers' Markets, visit [www.sdfarmbureau.org](http://www.sdfarmbureau.org).)

**November:** Apples, Asian pears, avocados, basil, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, cucumbers, grapes, green beans, guavas, herbs, kiwi, lemons, limes, lettuce, macadamia nuts, melons, navel oranges, peppers, persimmons, pumpkins, radishes, spinach, squash (summer), squash (winter), sweet potatoes, tangelos, tangerines, tomatoes, various cut flowers.

**December:** Apples, basil, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, guavas, herbs, kiwi, lemons, limes, lettuce, macadamia nuts, navel oranges, peppers, persimmons, potatoes, radishes, spinach, squash (winter), tangelos, tangerines, tomatoes, various cut flowers

## Contact Us!

Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let *California Garden* readers know about? If so, please email [calendar@sdfloreal.org](mailto:calendar@sdfloreal.org) or Barbara Forrest at [bforrest@cox.net](mailto:bforrest@cox.net) with your group's name, the meeting date and time, meeting place, any applicable fees, event program and contact information. You may also submit the above information via regular mail, sent to Calendar Editor, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego, CA 92101. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion! The deadline for the upcoming Jan/Feb 2009 issue is November 10, 2008; the deadline for the Mar/Apr 2009 issue is January 10, 2009.



*The Tournament of Roses Parade was first held in Pasadena in 1890 when residents were invited to decorate their carriages with flowers from their gardens. It gradually outgrew Pasadena to become a Southern California event with participation by many communities. Although we don't have a description of the float from San Diego in 1913, by that year the competition for best float had already begun.*

*The event has greatly expanded over the years in size, beauty and materials. Join the San Diego Floral Association to see the floats close up on January 2, 2009.*

## January 1913

### Tournament of Roses Parade

A garden reporter was in Pasadena New Year's Day to see their big annual event, the "Tournament of Roses" and unreservedly pronounces it a real success. Undoubtedly the good people of Pasadena are growing more proficient each year in the handling of the big parade and other interesting features, and also the electric and steam roads take care of the throngs journeying from Los Angeles in a way that seems to be all that can be expected.

Numerous beautifully decorated floats added gaiety and splendor to the pretty scene, fair damsels were there, arrayed in filmy apparel and bright smiles and gallant knights rode prancing chargers as in days of old. All together the effect was most pleasing.

Naturally the members of our floral association will ask, "What about the flowers?" The floral decorations were good but not abundant. A great deal of smilax and other green was used with a judicious use of poinsettias, red and pink carnations, some geraniums, etc. to add the color. The effect was pleasing. The only paper flowers in evidence were huge caricatures carried on long poles and were not intended to deceive anyone.

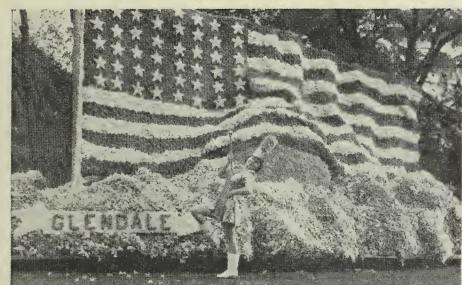
The parade took about an hour and a half to pass and during all that time the vast crowds were interested to the extent of holding their positions, many of them standing on seats, until the end.

The San Diego float was well entitled to win the second prize awarded it, or perhaps to the first prize upon its merits as to artistic arrangement and finished appearance, though the yacht of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, which was given first prize, was very realistic, even to the dozen or more men in yachting costume seated on its deck.

As an advertising feature for Pasadena this event must be well worth all it costs, and anyway it gives the holiday worthy of the name, and something to be looked forward to with pleasure year after year.



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CITY OF LONG BEACH FLOAT

Photos from 1940 Tournament of Roses Parade



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*Danielle in the Carlsbad Flower Fields photo- Linda Olsen*

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